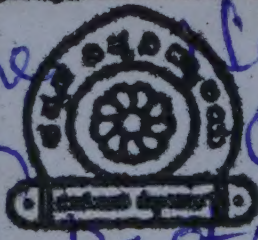


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Title: The New Economic  
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AEC No: 037525 1116

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1950







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**S. GUREVICH and S. PARTIGUL**

**THE NEW  
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IN THE POSTWAR  
FIVE-YEAR PLAN  
PERIOD**



**FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE**



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The New Economic  
Upswing of the U.S.S.R.  
in the Postwar  
Five-Year Plan Period



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FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE  
Moscow 1950



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ದಿನಾಂಕ 31.10.1998



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## INTRODUCTION

“Our country is on a new upgrade. It is to be observed in the economic achievements, in the scope and character of cultural endeavour, in the moral and political unity of the Soviet people, which has risen to a new and higher level.”

V. M. MOLOTOV

THE CHARACTERISTIC feature of the postwar period is the growth of the forces of Socialism and democracy on the one hand, and the weakening and decline of the forces of capitalism on the other.

The growth of the forces of Socialism and democracy finds expression primarily in the increased might of the Soviet Union, in its further economic and cultural progress and in the enhancement of its international prestige. The U.S.S.R. is the chief bulwark of the democratic, anti-imperialist camp, which confronts the camp



of imperialism and aggression headed by the United States. After World War II, a number of countries in Central and South-Eastern Europe dropped out of the imperialist system. The peoples of these countries, after being liberated from fascist slavery by the Soviet Army, swept away the reactionary regimes and established a new democratic system. The powerful upsurge of the national liberation movement in the dependent and colonial countries is menacing the rear of the capitalist system.

A great victory has been achieved by the Chinese people, numbering hundreds of millions, who have thrown off the chains of imperialist oppression and have created the People's Republic of China.

All the inherent contradictions of capitalism have been greatly intensified. The ruling classes in the capitalist countries are shifting the burden of postwar economic reconversion to the shoulders of the working people.

In the United States, industrial production, in July 1949, amounted to only 65% of the highest level reached during the period of the war. Nevertheless, the incomes of the capitalists continue to grow. In 1947, United States corporations showed profits amounting to nearly 30,000 million dollars as against 24,000 million at the height of the war and 6,400 million before the war. In



1948 the monopolists' profits rose still higher. In contrast to this enormous increase in wealth we see the steady deterioration of the material conditions of the masses of the workers. Real wages are falling. Unemployment is increasing.

In France, the capitalists' profits in 1948 reached colossal dimensions and greatly exceeded the total payroll of the factory and office workers in France, whereas, owing to the rise in commodity prices, the real wages of the French workers have dropped to half during the postwar years.

The increasing subjection of the economic life of the capitalist countries of Europe to the interests of the American monopolies has intensified the inherent contradictions of capitalism. The American monopolies are striving to paralyze competing branches of European industry, thus dooming millions of workers to chronic unemployment. The "Marshall Plan" has been utterly exposed as a plan for the political and economic enslavement of nations.

Growing impoverishment of the masses, chronic unemployment, which is assuming increasingly menacing proportions, and greater exploitation of the working people on the one hand, and colossal growth of monopoly profits, growth of the parasitism of bourgeois society, and unprecedented rampant militarism on the other—such is the picture of capitalism today.

It is becoming increasingly evident that the capitalist system is doomed. The masses have become more politically minded. Their democratic strivings have taken firm and definite shape. It is becoming increasingly clear that mankind's only road of salvation is the overthrow of capitalism and transition to Socialism—the road taken by the people of the Soviet Union.

After the termination of the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet Union entered a new, peaceful period of development.

The planned socialist system of the U.S.S.R. proved its superiority over the capitalist system both in the prewar Stalin five-year plan periods and in the stern years of the Great Patriotic War. The incontrovertible superiority of the Soviet system over the capitalist system is also being vividly and convincingly demonstrated in the postwar period. The enemies of the U.S.S.R. calculated that the enormous damage inflicted on the Soviet Union by the war would make it dependent upon the capitalist countries. Contrary to these expectations, however, the Soviet Union, thanks to the advantages of the socialist system and to the wise leadership of the Bolshevik Party and of Comrade Stalin, is with immense success achieving the postwar rehabilitation and further development of its national economy, and in doing so is relying entirely upon its own efforts, upon



the labour and heroism of the peoples of the U.S.S.R.

“All the efforts of our people since the victorious conclusion of the Great Patriotic War,” said V. M. Molotov, “are guided by the directing principles outlined by Comrade Stalin:

“‘Having terminated the war with victory over the enemies, the Soviet Union has entered a new, peaceful period in its economic development.

“‘At the present time the Soviet people—after having consolidated the positions gained—are confronted with the task of advancing further ahead to a new economic upsurge. We cannot limit ourselves to consolidating these positions, for that would lead to stagnation—we must advance further ahead in order to create the conditions for a new powerful upsurge in the national economy. In the shortest possible time we must heal the wounds inflicted on our country by the enemy and restore the prewar level of development of the national economy in order considerably to surpass this level in the nearest future, raise the material well-being of the people and still further strengthen the military and economic might of the Soviet State.’

“Everyone can now see that the Soviet people are successfully carrying out this Stalin program of firmly consolidating the positions won

and continuing to advance to a new economic upswing.”\*

Convincing proof of the great victories the Soviet people have won in the struggle for a new upswing of socialist economy is provided by the returns of the fulfilment of the postwar Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Further Development of the U.S.S.R.’s National Economy during the past years.

The program of economic and cultural development laid down in the postwar five-year plan is being carried out with exceptional success. The prewar economic level has not only been reached but surpassed. The Soviet people have all grounds for calculating that the postwar five-year plan will be carried out ahead of schedule. The standard of living of the working people is steadily rising. The achievements of Soviet science and culture are multiplying.

The returns of fulfilment of the postwar five-year plan during the past years are a testimony to the growth of socialist consciousness and consolidation of the moral and political unity of the Soviet people, manifested in their labour achievements, and in the enormous dimensions and depth of the socialist emulation movement which is now nationwide.

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\* V. M. Molotov, *XXXI Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution*, Moscow 1948, p. 4.



The mighty force of the socialist emulation movement pushed the economy of the U.S.S.R. forward during the prewar five-year plan periods. During the Patriotic War it helped the Soviet people to carry out most difficult tasks. Today, the communist method of building Socialism is employed by the entire mass of the working people of our Motherland. "We are living at a time when our factory and office workers and the collective-farm peasants throughout the country are taking part in socialist emulation. There are not, and there should not be now, any mill or factory or collective farm which does not take part in emulation, or does not strive to increase the number of those participating in socialist emulation within the enterprise or collective farm."\*

The returns of fulfilment of the postwar five-year plan during the past years testify to the great importance of the directing and organizing activities of the Bolshevik Party.

The history of the creation of socialist industry and the kolkhoz system, the history of the building of Socialism in our country, of the establishment of the moral and political unity of the Soviet people, is incontrovertible evidence that not one of these great gains would have been

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\* *Ibid.*, pp. 13-14.

possible without the directing and uniting activities of the Party of Lenin and Stalin. During the Great Patriotic War the Party inspired the people, mobilized its forces for the struggle against the fascist invaders. Today, under postwar conditions, the Bolshevik Party is directing the creative efforts of the Soviet people in carrying out the Stalin plans for the further economic and cultural development of our country.

“What is the foundation of our mounting successes? This question may be answered briefly. The foundation of our successes is the guidance of the Bolshevik Party, of the Great Stalin, which has welded together the working class and the working peasants in their struggle for the triumph of Socialism.”\*

These successes are revealed in the figures and facts which testify to the further postwar growth of industry, construction, transport and agriculture; they are revealed in the concrete data on the improvement of the material welfare and culture of the Soviet people.

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\* V. M. Molotov, *XXXI Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution*, Moscow 1948, p. 30.





## INDUSTRY

THE POSTWAR upswing of the U.S.S.R.'s industry constitutes one of the brightest pages in the economic history of the country.

The victorious termination of the Great Patriotic War confronted Soviet industry with big and complicated tasks. Industry had to be reconverted to peacetime production in the shortest possible time. In the districts freed from temporary enemy occupation, thousands of mills and factories and other industrial enterprises which had been wrecked by the German fascist invaders had to be restored. Industry had to be developed at an accelerated rate, because, in the last analysis, it is the growth of industrial production that creates the conditions for a new upswing of the whole of the national economy, for an improvement in the material welfare of the Soviet people, and for strengthening the military-economic power of our Motherland.

The methods and the schedule for carrying out these tasks were worked out in the postwar Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Further Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R.

As is known, the postwar five-year plan provides for the attainment of the prewar level of industrial production already in 1948. During the five-year period the prewar volume of industrial production must be reached and exceeded in the regions that had been occupied by the German fascists. By the end of the five-year period, the total volume of industrial production in the U.S.S.R. is to exceed the prewar level by nearly 50%. That means that the annual increase of industrial production in 1946-50 must amount to 15,600 million rubles, compared with 5,500 million rubles in the first five-year plan period, 10,400 million rubles in the second five-year plan period, and 14,300 million rubles in the first three years of the third five-year plan period.

The achievement of all the tasks of the postwar five-year plan calls for priority in the rehabilitation and further development of heavy industry. More than half the capital investments in the national economy during the five-year period are to go to the heavy industries.

Such a tremendous program of postwar industrial development can be carried out only under



the socialist system of production. The specific features and advantages of socialist economy safeguarded Soviet industry from the difficulties and contradictions that industry in capitalist countries encountered after the war. In the U.S.S.R. anarchy in production has been liquidated and the productive forces are being planfully developed in the interests of the whole of society. The impoverishment of the working people that is characteristic of capitalism has been eliminated in the U.S.S.R., and this has removed the narrow limits of effective demand with which capitalist production constantly comes into collision. In fact, continuous improvement in the material and cultural welfare of the working people is the law of development of socialist society. Soviet industry develops on the basis of the continuous expansion of the home market, without crises and unemployment.

Unlike capitalist countries, where the jungle law of competition is the motive principle of economic development, in the U.S.S.R. there is no antagonism between industrial enterprises. Instead of destructive competition, rational cooperation and emulation, guided by the Socialist State, operate in the Soviet Union.

In Soviet society new and more powerful stimuli to development exist, namely: the growing requirements of the peoples of the Soviet Union,

the fact that the working people are interested in increasing the wealth and might of their Socialist Motherland.

The active, creative participation of the working people of the U.S.S.R. in social production finds expression in the immensely widespread nature of socialist emulation—the most important motive force of Soviet society.

Socialist emulation, which has manifested itself with exceptional force in the postwar period, has brought to light tremendous internal reserves which make it possible to carry out the five-year plan ahead of time. A popular movement has spread all over the country to fulfil the five-year plan in four years.

The returns of industrial development during the first years of the five-year period show convincingly how successfully this aim is being achieved.

In conformity with the targets set by the five-year plan, the postwar reorganization of industrial production expressed in an extensive reconversion from wartime to peacetime production, was in the main completed in 1946. Already in that year, gross output of civilian goods by industry as a whole increased 20% over that of 1945.

The rapid surmounting of postwar difficulties and the successful reconversion of the national



economy was a great achievement of the Soviet people.

The difficulties of postwar reconversion were caused primarily by the devastation of the regions of the U.S.S.R. that had been in enemy occupation. Additional difficulties were created by the bad harvest of 1946.

In any other country, reconversion to peacetime construction under such conditions would have dragged on for many years. In the Soviet Union, thanks to the correct policy of the Party of Lenin and Stalin and to the advantages of the socialist system of economy, the reconversion of the national economy from wartime to peacetime development has been successfully accomplished.

In the course of one year, tens of thousands of industrial enterprises that had been engaged in war production were reconverted for peacetime production in an organized manner, in strict conformity with the requirements of the five-year plan.

Postwar reconversion necessitated important changes in the assortment of goods to be produced; the assortment had to be enlarged to meet the growing demand for a variety of goods for civilian use.

The specialization of many enterprises was changed. In many of them production and tech-

nological processes had to be reorganized. The interconnections between many of the enterprises had to be altered.

The machine building and steel industries underwent thorough reorganization after the war.

In 1946, the machine-building industry produced 50% more civilian goods than it did in 1945. The production of tractors, compressors, pumps, equipment for the chemical and other industries was resumed; the production of equipment for the coal, oil and other industries was organized. The complexity of this task can be grasped from what took place at the Kirov Plant in the Urals. When the war ended, the staff of this plant went over to the production of a new, postwar model of a heavy Diesel tractor, the S-80. Thousands of machines were rearranged in new production lines. It was necessary to make 8,500 highly productive jigs, 2,000 dies and about 1,000,000 cutting tools.

At the iron and steel plants the whole assortment of goods produced was revised and the production of new grades of steel and new shapes of rolled steel was organized.

Considerable reorganization was carried out in the chemical industry—which after the war passed to the production of mineral fertilizers and other peacetime requirements; and in the



umber industry—which greatly increased the output of building timber, and also of pit props for the coal, iron and other branches of the mining industry.

All branches of industry were reorganized to meet peacetime requirements.

The production of new types of goods called for the retraining of workers on a mass scale. Millions of workers received the necessary supplementary training. Among these were large numbers of men demobilized from the Soviet Army who, on their discharge, were ensured of employment commensurate with the special skill and experience they had acquired in the army. The task of retraining the workers was entirely undertaken by the Soviet State, and during the period of training the workers received their average pay.

The successful accomplishment of postwar reconversion in 1946 created the necessary prerequisites for accelerating the rehabilitation and further development of the national economy in subsequent years.

Steadily increasing rapid growth of industrial production is one of the specific features of the U.S.S.R.'s postwar development; and this most fully reveals the advantages of the socialist system of economy, which is free from the restrictions to growth of social production that are inherent

in capitalism, and possesses powerful forces for ensuring a steady upswing.

The year 1947 marked the turning point in the postwar economic development of the U.S.S.R. Comrade Stalin set the Soviet people the task of accelerating in 1947 the rate of production and construction. The Soviet Government condemned the practice of setting low plan targets based on the "bottlenecks" in industry and the hitherto prevailing rates of output; it urged the necessity of basing national economic plans on average-progressive rates of output which take into account the achievements of the advanced workers. The decision of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. Concerning the State Plan for the Rehabilitation and Further Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. for 1947 stated: "The plan must orientate itself on the advanced workers, engineers and technicians who are revealing what immense possibilities exist for achieving progressive standards in the utilization of machines and mechanisms, and are thus ensuring the overfulfilment of state plans."

1947 witnessed a considerable acceleration in the growth of industry. Throughout the year, the rate of growth of industrial production rose from quarter to quarter. Thus, the growth compared with the corresponding quarter in the preceding year was as follows: first quarter 12%; second



quarter 18 % ; third quarter 26 % ; fourth quarter 30 % . Gross output of all industry for the whole of 1947 increased 22 % over that of 1946.

In 1948 a further upswing took place in all branches of Soviet industry. Gross output of all industry increased 27 % over that of 1947. Thus, a further acceleration in the growth of industry was achieved in 1948 compared with 1947 and 1946.

An immense achievement was the avoidance of a seasonal drop in production in the first quarter of 1948. The Party and the Government had already in prewar years persistently combated the slowing down of production in the winter months. The Law on the postwar five-year plan contained strict instructions "to increase in the national economy the state material reserves and stocks with the object of putting a stop to seasonal declines in production and of averting adventitious economic difficulties." The Party and the Government rendered the metallurgical, fuel and other branches of industry great assistance in accumulating at the plants stocks of raw materials, fuel and auxiliary materials. The enterprises made much better preparation for working under winter conditions.

As a result, there was no drop in the output of metals and of other industrial products in the first quarter of 1948; on the contrary, the out-

put of many articles even exceeded the level of the fourth quarter of 1947.

Similarly, the seasonal winter drop in production was completely avoided in the first quarter of 1949. Far from dropping, our industry increased output compared with that of the fourth quarter of 1948.

Bourgeois economists have repeatedly questioned the feasibility of the Soviet economic plans. The course of the fulfilment of the postwar five-year plan has proved again and again the feasibility of our plans, which are not only fulfilled, but overfulfilled. The average quarterly level of industrial production of the prewar year 1940 was already reached in the fourth quarter of 1947. In 1948, the gross output of all industry exceeded the 1940 level by 18%, and by this one of the most important targets of the postwar five-year plan was reached.

After the termination of World War I and of foreign intervention, it took our country nearly six years to restore industrial production to the prewar, 1913 level. The Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Further Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. for 1946-50 provides for the restoration of the prewar level of industrial production in half that time, in spite of the enormous damage that was inflicted upon our country by the war. As a matter of fact,



even this bold plan has been exceeded by the Soviet people. Already in the third postwar year, socialist industry produced more than it did before the war. In 1948, the prewar, 1940 level (which was ever so much higher than the 1913 level) was already exceeded.

Further evidence of the successful fulfilment of the postwar plans is the fact that the plan for gross output of Soviet industry for the first three years of the postwar five-year plan was exceeded by 3 %, and that for 1948 by 6 %.

1949 was marked by further victories for socialist industry. Compared with 1948, industrial output increased 20 %, and with the prewar year 1940 it increased 41 %. In the fourth quarter of 1949 the gross average monthly industrial output exceeded the 1940 level by 53 % and thus exceeded the level laid down in the five-year plan for 1950.

The rapid postwar rehabilitation and further development of the U.S.S.R.'s national economy is based on the upswing of heavy industry. The creation of a highly developed home industry for the production of means of production was an immense victory for the Soviet people during the prewar Stalin five-year plan periods; it marked the triumph of the Bolshevik policy of the socialist industrialization of the country. The existence of a powerful heavy industry, and of a machine-

building and metal-working industry in particular, ensured the independence and military-economic strength of the Soviet Union. During the Great Patriotic War, the enemy learned of the formidable might of Soviet heavy industry, which was converted to the manufacture of armaments and fully supplied the needs of the Soviet Army.

Heavy industry is also playing the leading role in the postwar rehabilitation and further development of the U.S.S.R.'s national economy. To raise out of the ruins the hundreds of towns and villages that had been wrecked by the German fascist invaders, to supply the national economy with sufficient quantities of fuel and the railways with sufficient quantities of rails and rolling stock, to supply agriculture with sufficient machines and chemical fertilizers and greatly to increase the output capacity of the light and food industries, it is necessary to ensure the prior and more rapid development of heavy industry. Heavy industry is the basis for the further strengthening of the economic and military might of the U.S.S.R., for consolidating the technical-economic independence of our Motherland.

Hence, the Soviet people are particularly pleased to note the postwar achievements in the output of coal, oil, electric power, metals and machines, and also of the other branches of heavy industry.



Important achievements are to be noted in the development of the raw materials branches of heavy industry, particularly in coal mining and iron and steel. These branches suffered most during the war. In the districts occupied by the enemy, all the coal mines and metallurgical plants were ruthlessly wrecked.

By the end of the postwar five-year plan period, coal output is to exceed the prewar level by more than 50 %. In 1950, coal will constitute over 75 % of the country's total fuel supply, which is somewhat more than before the war. In 1947, the coal industry already reached the prewar level, and the rate of increase of coal output is steadily growing. In 1947 it was 12 % above that of the preceding year, whereas the increase in 1946 over the output of 1945 was only 10 %. In 1948, the rate of increase was still higher, and the output exceeded that of 1947 by 14 %. The coal industry exceeded its state plan assignment for 1948 and supplied the country with a large quantity of coal over and above the plan. Coal output continued to rise in 1949 and reached 12 % in the first quarter and 13 % in the second quarter above that of the corresponding quarters of 1948.

The successes of the Soviet coal industry stand out with exceptional vividness against the background of deep stagnation the coal industry of

Great Britain has been in for over thirty years. Whereas the Soviet coal industry has already overstepped the prewar level and its output is steadily rising, the British coal mines are producing much less coal than they did before World War II, not to speak of the better times on the eve of World War I.

The postwar five-year plan provides for the complete rehabilitation of the iron and steel industry of the U.S.S.R. and for an increase in output of 35 % above the prewar level.

The workers in the iron and steel industry are steadily raising production. They are increasing volume of output, mastering the production of new grades of steel and alloys, and producing a larger assortment of rolled metals, pipes and hardware in conformity with the growing requirements of the country's national economy. In 1946 the output of pig iron in the U.S.S.R. was 12 %, of steel 9 %, and of rolled metals 13 % above that of 1945. In 1947 the increase over 1946 was as follows: pig iron 14 % ; steel 9 % ; rolled metals 15 % .

The rapid increase in the output of iron and steel continued in 1948. Output of pig iron rose 22 % and of steel and rolled metals 28 % over that of 1947. In the fourth quarter of 1948, the average daily output of pig iron exceeded, and that of steel, rolled metals and iron pipes considerably exceeded the prewar level.



The year 1949 showed a further considerable increase in the output of iron and steel, as is evident from the following figures:

INCREASE 1949 OVER 1948

	%
pig iron	119
steel	125
rolled metals	127

The Soviet metallurgists are steadily improving the supply of the country's requirements in special shapes of rolled metals. Thus, in 1947, the output of rails was 21% above that of 1946, in 1948, 34% above that of 1947; and in 1949, 80% above that of 1948. Year after year there is an increase in the output of mine rails, of sheet iron for roofing, of steel for the electrical engineering industry and of tin plate. In the South, the cold rolling of thin sheet metal for the automobile industry has been resumed. The production of all-rolled wheels for railway rolling stock has been started. There is a marked increase in the output of pipes for the oil and other branches of industry.

The accelerated development of the coal and iron and steel industries not only shows that the U.S.S.R.'s national economy is being supplied with rapidly increasing quantities of the coal and

metals it needs. The ground for the successes achieved in the development of these two most important branches of industry was prepared by the work of numerous other branches of the heavy industry, which supply the two above-mentioned industries with materials and equipment. The coal mines and blast furnaces are receiving increasing quantities of mining, metallurgical and electrical equipment, and their supply of electric power is steadily being improved. The railways are successfully coping with the task of transporting coal, ores and metals.

After World War I and foreign intervention, the acute shortage of coal and metals retarded the rehabilitation of the Soviet Republic's national economy. The output of pig iron was only about 3% of the prewar level. Today, notwithstanding the immeasurably greater damage caused by the German fascist invaders, the U.S.S.R. is not experiencing the difficulties it experienced then. Thanks to the wise foresight of Great Stalin, a second coal and metallurgical base was created in the eastern part of the Soviet Union, far in the interior. The metals and coal from the eastern regions of the U.S.S.R. played an enormously important role during the Great Patriotic War and, on the termination of the war, were the basis for the rapid revival of the metallurgical industry in the South and of the coal



industry in the Donets Basin, the basis of the upswing of all branches of the U.S.S.R.'s national economy.

During the period of fulfilment of the prewar Stalin five-year plans, the machine-building industry was the leading factor in the technical reconstruction of our national economy. Now that the war is over, machine building is playing a very important part in the postwar rehabilitation and further development of our national economy.

Reorganizing their work after the war, Soviet machine builders have already mastered an extensive program of production of the most diverse types of technological equipment, machines and machine tools. "The industries of the Soviet Union," said Comrade Molotov, "can now produce any machine, and the scale of machine building has, moreover, already far surpassed the prewar scale. The number of machine tools in our country has greatly increased as compared with 1940, and within a short period may be increased still further."\*

The output of the machine-building plants is steadily rising. In 1948, the output of motor trucks increased 43%, motor cars 110%, metallurgical equipment 94%, ball bearings 280%,

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\* V. M. Molotov, *XXXI Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution*, Moscow 1948, p. 12.

electric motors up to 100 kw. 59%, and tractors more than 100% above that of 1947.

Over and above the plan, machine builders have turned out a considerable number of Diesel engines, oil engines, electric motors, metal-cutting machines, earth loading machines, turbine drills, pumps, compressors, locomotives, railway passenger cars, trolley buses, motor buses, excavators, concrete mixers, telegraph apparatus, radio transmission installations, automatic knitting machines, and other kinds of machines.

In 1949, the output of machines is continuing to grow at a rapid rate.

As was the case before the war, the U.S.S.R.'s machine-building industry is the material basis of the technical progress of the country's economy.

Simultaneously with the rapid increase in the quantity of machines supplied to industry, there is an improvement in the grade of machines produced. In 1948, the total output of metal-cutting machines increased 24%, but the output of highly productive special machines and assemblies increased 42%.

In the postwar period, the machine-building plants have mastered the production of numerous new types and designs of machines. Among these are new types of automatic copy-milling machines, boring machines, automatic and semi-automatic turning lathes, and a number of special



machines for different branches of the machine-building industry.

Intense creative work is being carried on by designers of agricultural machines. In 1948, over 200 samples of agricultural machines were tested in the fields in different parts of the country. The majority of these, as many as 130, were of new design made by Soviet engineers; the rest were improvements of machines already produced. These are: self-propelled harvester combines; new types of mowing machines; potato harvester combines which dig the potatoes, separate them from the leaves and fill them into sacks; flax harvester and sugar-beet harvester combines; new cotton picking machines; seed drills; ploughs and other machines which enable the mechanization of agriculture to be raised to a still higher level.

A number of first-class machines have been prepared and produced in the postwar period by the heavy and transport machine-building industry. The design of the "L" series of locomotives makes possible a saving of up to 24 % in fuel, an improvement in running and repair conditions, and a reduction of cost of production compared with previous designs. The "VK-100-2" turbine of 100,000 kw., worked with high parametric steam, is the only fast, single shaft turbine in the world of such capacity and steam pressure. The new "E-3" excavator is in many respects

superior to the best machines of this class. The automobile industry has mastered the production of new Diesel driven trucks such as the "YAZ-200" and the 4-ton "ZIS-150," which are considerably more powerful and more economical and reliable in exploitation than the machines formerly produced. The new automobiles "Pobeda" and "Moskvich" have already won a wide reputation. The machine-building and instrument-making plants have mastered the production of new, technically improved equipment for the textile industry, such as high-speed flyer frames, high-speed warping machines and automatic looms.

The machine-building industry is supplying all branches of the national economy with improved types of machines and equipment and, not resting content with what has been achieved, is mastering the production of still more improved types.

One of the most important results of postwar industrial development is the expansion of the production of consumers' goods.

In the historic speech he delivered at an election meeting in the Stalin Election District on February 9, 1946, Comrade Stalin, outlining the Communist Party's plan of work in the postwar period, said "...special attention will be devoted to the expansion of the production of consumers'



goods, to raising the standard of living of the working people...."

Comrade Stalin's statement found concrete expression in the Law of the Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Further Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. for 1946-50, which gave priority to the following task: "To promote agriculture and the industries producing consumers' goods in order to raise the material well-being of the people of the Soviet Union and to create an abundance of the principal items of consumers' goods in the country."

The task of increasing popular consumption in the postwar period was rendered difficult by the enormous damage the war had inflicted upon agriculture and the industries producing consumers' goods. These difficulties were aggravated by the severe drought in 1946.

The Bolshevik Party and the Soviet Government organized the Soviet people for the purpose of surmounting these difficulties. On Comrade Stalin's proposal, the Government adopted a number of measures to increase the production of consumers' goods.

Thus, in December 1946, the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. adopted a decision on "The Measures to be Taken to Accelerate the Upswing of the State Light Industries that Produce Consumers' Goods." In this decision it was stated

that the rate of increase of output at the textile mills and light industry factories was totally inadequate and did not ensure the fulfilment of the five-year plan for these industries, and did not satisfy the popular demand for textile goods, footwear, knit goods and other consumers' goods. The Government increased the amount of capital investments for the purpose of rehabilitating and further developing the factories in these industries and adopted a number of other measures to secure a radical improvement in their work.

The producers' cooperatives and local industries were turned on to the production of consumers' goods, and the consumers' goods departments at the plants in the heavy industry were reopened.

One of the chief conditions for the rapid rehabilitation and development of the industries producing consumers' goods was the strengthening and expansion of their raw materials base. On the basis of the decision passed by the February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.), socialist agriculture already in that year achieved great successes and created the possibility of rapidly increasing the output of the light, textile, food and other branches of industry producing consumers' goods.

1947 marked the turning point in the postwar growth of these branches of industry. The Soviet



Government made the acceleration of their development one of the chief aims of the state plan for 1947; and already in that year the output of the industries producing consumers' goods rose 33 % above that of 1946, compared with a 22 % increase for the total output of all industry.

The reform of the currency and the abolition of rationing necessitated a still further expansion of the industries producing consumers' goods.

In 1948, and also in 1949, there was another increase in the output of textile goods, clothing, leather and rubber footwear, socks and stockings and domestic requirements. There is a steady improvement in the assortment of these goods. The cotton mills are turning out larger quantities of the cotton fabrics that are in greatest demand.

The woollen industry has increased the output of cloth for men's and women's clothing, and the silk industry of crêpe fabrics. The clothing industry, taking into account the growing demand and the higher tastes of the people, revised its assortments plan and improved the styles and quality of its manufactures. The knit goods industry still further increased the output of high quality stockings, patterned socks and artificial silk underwear.

Thanks to the abundant harvests in past years, the food industry has made rapid progress.

There has been a large increase in the output of the principal articles of consumption—flour, butter, meat, sausage, sugar, vegetable oil, confectionery and canned food, and there has been a considerable increase in the fish supply. In 1948, the output of the food industry increased 34% over that of the preceding year, whereas the highest rate of increase achieved hitherto, in 1938 was 25%. The successes achieved by agriculture ensured a further growth of the food industry in 1949. As a consequence of accelerated capital construction, the prewar capacities of bakeries, macaroni and margarine factories, wine factories and distilleries, and the salt industry have been greatly enlarged. Simultaneously with the growth of quantity of output there is a steady improvement in quality, and the assortment of foods is being enlarged to meet consumers' requirements. The production of many of the items produced before the war has been resumed, goods are now being sold in small packages, and the general make-up of the goods has improved.

The production of domestic and cultural requirements has been considerably increased. Already in 1947, the prewar output was reached in the manufacture of radio sets, loudspeakers, aluminium and zinc domestic utensils, meat mincers, and other goods.



The rapid development of the industries producing consumers' goods was a most important prerequisite for improving the material welfare of the Soviet people.

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Fourteen years ago, at a conference called by the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) to discuss construction problems, Comrade Molotov said: "The tomorrow of Socialism depends primarily upon the successes achieved in the construction that we are carrying on today."

The acceleration and growth of production in the postwar five-year plan period are ensured by the immense construction program for this period, exceeding that of prewar times.

The postwar five-year plan provides for centralized capital construction to the value of 250,300 million rubles. This is more than double the amount of capital construction carried out in the second five-year plan period. The share of total capital investments assigned to industry in the period of 1946-50 will be 63% compared with 47.8% in the second five-year plan period.

In five years it is planned to build, restore and start working throughout the Soviet Union 5,900 state industrial enterprises. The very fact that such a huge program has been undertaken testifies to the advantages of the socialist system.

Intense construction work was carried on in our country during the Great Patriotic War. In the three years 1942, 1943 and 1944, the volume of capital construction amounted to about 79,000 million rubles, not counting the value of evacuated equipment. Capital construction was concentrated in branches of industry that supplied war needs and also on the installation of evacuated plants in the interior of the country.

During the war, Soviet builders acquired immense experience in employing up-to-date industrial and high-speed methods in building operations. This experience has greatly facilitated the expansion of building operations in the postwar period and is being extensively applied.

Nevertheless, the execution of the building program laid down in the postwar five-year plan called for important changes in the organization of construction work compared with wartime construction; it called for the further development of the building industry, and for the strengthening of its material and technical base. A much higher quality of building work was demanded. Building without estimates and without plans, which was permitted within certain limits during the war, was prohibited. Estimates resumed their place as the principal document that defines the total cost of a construction job and the limits of expenditure permitted.



In an exceedingly short space of time a powerful building materials industry was developed in the country. In 1948 the output of cement and slate almost doubled that of 1946—the first year of the postwar five-year plan period—output of window glass increased 42% and of soft roofing 52%. Output of timber increased 68% in this period. The mass production was organized of excavators, concrete mixers, mechanical transporters, dumpcars, dumpbody trucks and other machines. A number of new plants were put into operation for making pre-fabricated parts and other details for buildings, slag blocks, bricks and other building requirements.

The improvement in the housing and material living conditions of building workers, especially after the reform of the currency and abolition of rationing, helped to create permanent staffs of building workers and to raise the productivity of labour in the building industry.

Under these conditions, the problem of properly utilizing the resources invested in building operations assumed central importance. A number of measures were taken to accelerate capital construction and the starting of the restored and newly built plants.

In 1948, on instructions from the Government, measures were taken to stop the dissipation of financial and material resources and of labour

power among numerous construction jobs and to concentrate them on the most important ones which in the shortest time could provide an additional increase in production capacities and output. A new bonus system for builders was introduced by which the payment of bonuses was made directly dependent upon fulfilment of the state plan for starting newly built plants.

These measures helped to accelerate capital construction and the starting of new production capacities. In 1947, the volume of capital construction increased 10% over that of 1946, and in 1948 the volume of all capital construction in the national economy as a whole increased 23% over that of 1947. In 1949, the building organizations achieved further success: capital construction was 20% and housing 26% above that of 1948.

The Party and the Government devoted special attention to the rehabilitation and development of the raw materials branches of the heavy industry—the metallurgical, fuel and chemical industries, and to the erection of electric power stations.

During the four years of the postwar five-year plan period, 5,200 state industrial enterprises were newly built or restored, and put into operation.

Among the plants that were started there are many that are famous throughout the world as the largest and most advanced in their respective branches of industry.



These include the blast furnaces at the Azovstal, Makeyevka and Zaporozhstal metallurgical plants—the largest furnaces in Europe. Of immense economic importance is the starting of the huge pipe-rolling mill—the “Bolshoi Stiffel” at the Nikopol Pipe-Rolling Plant, the all-rolled steel wheel shops at the Karl Liebknecht Plant, the slabbing mill, the continuous thin sheet metal mill and the cold rolling and finishing sheet shop at the Zaporozhstal Plant. The starting of these production capacities answers the growing requirements in special sorts of rolled metals for our transport machine building, oil, automobile and other branches of industry.

As regards the coal industry, numerous large pits have started operations in the Donets Basin, the Moscow Coal Basin and in the eastern regions of the U.S.S.R. Shale mines have been opened in the Estonian S.S.R. and in the Leningrad and Saratov regions. The long distance Saratov-Moscow gas main, 843 kilometres long, has been completed and is now in operation. “The construction of the Moscow-Saratov gas pipe line is a big contribution to the improvement of the living conditions of the working people in our capital and to the development of a new branch of industry in the Soviet Union, the gas industry,” wrote Comrade Stalin in his greetings to the builders of the pipe line. The construction of the Dashava-Kiev

and the Kokhtla-Jarva-Leningrad gas pipe lines is also completed.

As regards electric power, the new capacities put into operation during the first two years of the postwar five-year plan period was almost equal to that put into operation during the whole of the second five-year plan period. The power stations controlled by the Ministry of Power Stations reached prewar capacity already in the beginning of 1947. The largest electricity supply systems in the country, which had been wrecked during the war—the Moscow, Stalingrad, Donets Basin and others—have already surpassed their established prewar capacity. Among the restored plants are the huge Zuevka Hydroelectric Power Plant in the Donets Basin and the Stalinogorsk Hydroelectric Power Station near Moscow. In 1947, the main work of restoring the Lenin Hydroelectric Power Plant on the Dnieper was completed and the first three turbines were started. At the end of 1948 the fourth powerful unit was put into operation. By the end of the five-year plan period, all nine turbines will be working. The capacity of the plant will be tens of thousands of kilowatts larger than before the war; every year it will supply many millions of kilowatt hours of electricity more than it did before the war.

The Stalingrad and Kharkov Tractor Works have been restarted. The Rostselmash, the gigan-



tic agricultural machinery plant, has been fully restored. The first section of the agricultural machinery plant in the Altai Territory has been completed and thereby a new centre for the manufacture of agricultural machinery has been created in the eastern part of the Soviet Union. In addition to heavy industry, the Party and the Government are speeding up the development of those branches of industry that produce consumers' goods. In 1948, the volume of capital construction in the light and food industries exceeded that of 1947 by 32%. In the postwar period a large number of textile mills, shoe factories, food and other factories producing consumers' goods have been restored or newly built.

Corresponding to the immense scale on which building operations are being conducted in the postwar period is their high technical and organizational level.

One of the most striking examples of the employment of advanced building methods is provided by the builders of the Zaporozhstal Plant. The Government drew up a strict schedule for starting the various parts of this plant: heat and power station and the first blast furnace in June 1947; the slabbing mill in July; the thin sheet metal shop in August; cold rolling shop in September and the coke and chemical plant in November. The builders carried out the Government's

assignments strictly according to schedule. In 1947, Zaporozhstal was already supplying the country with its precious products. The number of workers employed in the restoration of the plant was as follows: 2,500 electricians, about 2,000 metal construction workers; nearly 3,000 machine installers, and thousands of carpenters, plasterers and other craftsmen. This vast army of builders was abundantly equipped with building machines and mechanisms. The pre-fabrication of parts of premises and structures was extensively practised, as also was the method introduced by Ivan Rumyantsev, the famous pipelayer, of joining pipes into big lengths before laying. The work of erecting the plant was largely reduced to the assembling of large sections and whole groups previously fabricated in shops and workshops. The entire work was organized on the basis of a carefully worked out schedule, which coordinated the work of many thousands of workers and of the 37 building and installing organizations that were in charge of the various operations of the construction job, and of over a hundred enterprises in different parts of the country that supplied equipment. The schedule served as the organizing force which ensured the utmost concentration of attention on the priority sections of the plant and on securing high-speed building operations.



In 1948, the builders on the Zaporozhstal job achieved new successes. They employed the large-block installation method and in three-and-a-half months erected an all-welded blast furnace. The erection of an ordinary furnace would have taken twice the time.

The high-speed line methods of building, the complex mechanization of all processes, and the extensive use of pre-fabricated structures and parts are being more and more widely employed.

One of many examples of the skill of Soviet builders is the restoration of blast furnace No. 4 at the Azovstal Plant. Before retreating, the fascist barbarians blew up this gigantic structure. As a result of the explosion, the furnace subsided 3.6 metres, shifted from its base and moreover, leaned over at a sharp angle. On the proposal of a group of engineers, this damaged furnace, weighing 1,360 tons, was raised by means of jacks and restored to its original position. Never before in the history of building had there been a case of the successful straightening of a structure of this kind. Thanks to the inventiveness of the patriotic Soviet builders, the blast furnace was restored in a fourth of the time that had been planned.

An inestimable contribution to the development of building is being made by the Stakhanovite builders.

Take, for example, Comrade Orlov, the Moscow Stakhanovite bricklayer, one of the initiators of Stakhanov methods in building operations. He has introduced numerous progressive innovations in the building industry which have made him famous. We have already mentioned the pipelayer Comrade Rumyantsev, who introduced the big-length method of pipelaying at the Zaporozhstal Plant. His method made it possible to save two-fifths of the time planned for laying pipes.

For introducing high-speed methods of building Stalin Prizes have been awarded to the Novosibirsk bricklayer Comrade Maximenko, and to the Leningrad bricklayer Comrade Kulikov. In addition to these two bricklayers a Stalin Prize was awarded to Comrade Nechunyaev, a carpenter who has invented a number of ingenious devices, lathes and mechanisms, which increase the productivity of labour of carpenters and joiners in the building industry.

Not everywhere, however, is work organized as it is at the Zaporozhstal. On a number of building jobs, industrial methods are only slightly employed, the mechanization of building operations lags, not sufficient care is taken to retain permanent staffs, and financial and material resources and labour power are still scattered among numerous jobs. The example set by the builders at the Zaporozhstal Plant and other ad-



vanced building jobs shows the way to the further development of building operations in our country.

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Striking evidence of the economic might of the Soviet State and of the advantages of the socialist system are the results obtained in restoring industry in the regions which have been under enemy occupation.

The scale of restoration work conducted there can be judged by the fact that to reach the pre-war level of industrial production in these regions output must be increased five-and-a-half fold over that of 1944.

The rehabilitation of the economy which had been destroyed by the German fascist invaders began when the war was still in progress. When the war ended, the rehabilitation of the regions which had suffered from enemy occupation became one of the fundamental tasks of the Soviet people in the postwar five-year plan period; it is proceeding on an unprecedented scale and with great rapidity. During the first three years of the postwar five-year plan period about 56,000 million rubles of centralized capital investments were spent on the economic rehabilitation of these regions. For the purpose of comparison we will remind the reader that in the First Five-Year Plan period, the total capital investments in all

branches of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. amounted to 52,500 million rubles.

The gigantic plants of the metallurgical industry in the South have been raised out of the ruins and ashes, the coal mines in the Donets Basin and the iron mines in Krivoi Rog have been restored, the Lenin Hydroelectric Plant on the Dnieper has been revived, and thousands of other industrial enterprises are again supplying the country with their products and increasing output quarter after quarter and year after year.

In 1946, industrial production in formerly enemy-occupied regions increased 28% over that of 1945. In 1947, the increase over the preceding year was 33%. In 1948 the increase was 41%.

Exceptionally marked rapidity of growth of output was achieved by the restored ferrous metallurgical plants and coal mines. In 1947, output of pig iron in the formerly occupied regions increased 30%, and that of rolled metals 35%. 1948 saw a further increase in the output of the metallurgical industry. The output of pig iron in these regions increased 41% over that of 1947, steel 66% and rolled metals 65%.

The output of coal is steadily rising. The output of the Moscow Coal Basin has exceeded the prewar level over and over again. The Donets Coal Basin is now systematically increasing output.



When destroying the economy of the occupied regions, the German fascist invaders were convinced that these regions would remain devastated for decades. "A period of twenty-five years, that is the time Russia will need to restore what we have destroyed," wrote Fieldmarshal Stulpnagel to Hitler. These hopes were shared by all the enemies of the Soviet Union, including the present-day warmongers. The rapid economic rehabilitation of these regions is the best answer that can be given to the enemies of the Soviet people. The industries there are among the biggest sources for increasing the country's industrial production and are supplying the national economy with increasing quantities of coal, rolled metals, machines, cement, sugar and other products.

Simultaneously with the rehabilitation of industry in the formerly occupied regions, important changes are taking place in the geographical distribution of industry in the country. With the view to securing the fullest utilization of the country's economic and natural resources, industries are being brought still nearer to their sources of raw materials and to the districts where their products are consumed.

A most important fact is the intensified development of industry in the eastern regions. In 1930, from the rostrum of the Sixteenth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union,

Comrade Stalin set the Soviet people the task of creating a second coal and metallurgical base in the eastern part of the country.

This idea, characteristic of Stalin's genius, was carried out and it changed the face of our country. In the course of only one decade up to the beginning of the Great Patriotic War, there sprang up, on the basis of the Urals metallurgical and Kuzbas coal industries, a powerful industry, consisting of an iron and steel industry, various branches of the machine-building industry, a chemical and other industries. During the Patriotic War, the industry of the Urals and Siberia played the decisive role in supplying the Soviet Army with first-class armaments. In the three years 1942, 1943 and 1944, 2,250 large industrial enterprises were newly built and put into operation in the eastern regions. To enable the reader to judge of the changes that have taken place in recent years, we will remind him that in 1943, the output of pig iron in the Urals and Siberia expressed in terms of recast iron, was 35 % above the prewar level, the output of steel in terms of ordinary steel was 37 %, and the output of rolled metals in terms of the ordinary sort was 36 % above prewar level.

The industrial base in the eastern regions is being still further strengthened in the postwar five-year plan period. The share of these regions



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in the total industrial production of the country is increasing. As is known, in the current five-year plan period, the southern coal and metallurgical base will be fully restored and its output of coal and metals will exceed the prewar level. Nevertheless, by the end of the five-year plan period, the share of the eastern regions in the country's total coal output will have increased approximately from two-fifths—the prewar share—to two-thirds, and in pig iron from nearly one-third to nearly half. In 1950, the eastern regions' share of the total oil output will have increased from 12%—the figure for 1940—to 36%.

The five-year plan for the development of industry in the eastern regions is being successfully carried out. Already in 1947, the metallurgical industry in the Urals and Siberia had raised its output of pig iron, steel and rolled metals considerably above the prewar level.

The output of the coal fields in the eastern regions is today much higher than before the war.

Extensive industrial development is now taking place in the Urals, Siberia, the Volga districts and in Central Asia. Here, new branches of the machine-building industry are being created, including the automobile, tractor and electrical engineering industries. In the Volga districts, new oil fields are being developed and new oil refining

plants are being set up; the extraction of gas is being organized on a large scale in the Buguruslan and Saratov districts. In the districts of Central Asia, non-ferrous metallurgy is being developed, hydroelectric power stations are being built; the production of mineral fertilizers is being organized around the Kara-Tau phosphorites deposits, and new textile mills are being built.

The growth of industry in the eastern parts of the country will accelerate both the exploitation of the natural wealth of these regions and the process of reproduction in the whole of the U.S.S.R.'s economy.

In all the economic regions of the U.S.S.R. requirements in industrial products are being met to an increasing degree every year by local resources. This applies primarily to fuel, various kinds of building materials, and to the products of the light and food industries for mass consumption. Local state and cooperative industry is being rapidly restored and further developed.

The postwar changes in the geographical distribution of industry ensure the further economic and cultural development of the non-Russian republics and regions. In 1946, in his greetings to the builders and steel workers of the Uzbek metallurgical plant, Comrade Stalin wrote: "Uzbekistan now has its own steel and rolled metals



necessary for the further economic development of the republic."

The Uzbek and Kazakh metallurgical plants, which provide the respective Union Republics in Central Asia with their own metallurgical bases, the erection of an automobile plant and the powerful Mingechauri Hydroelectric Power Station in the Transcaucasian Republics, and the opening of large shale mines and other enterprises in the Baltic Union Republics, represent only a few examples of the rapid industrial development of the non-Russian republics since the war.

Thus, the postwar development of Soviet industry distinctly reflects the socialist principles of distributing productive forces in such a way as to ensure the all-sided development of the economic regions of the country, of intensely exploiting local resources and of bringing industry close to the sources of raw materials and to the districts where its products are consumed. In conformity with Comrade Stalin's instructions, the intensified industrial development of the eastern regions of the U.S.S.R. is continuing. The increasing industrialization of the non-Russian republics opens up wide prospects for their further economic and cultural development.

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To ensure rapid industrial development in the postwar five-year plan period, it is of first-class importance to provide industry with labour power, to create permanent staffs of workers, to improve their skill and to organize work properly in the plants and factories. These problems have always received the closest attention of the Party and the Government. An enormous part in the development of socialist industry was played by the six conditions for the development of industry that Comrade Stalin enumerated in the speech he delivered at the conference of business executives on June 23, 1931. Among these six conditions that Comrade Stalin pointed to was the organized recruiting of labour power, stopping the flux of labour power, eliminating equalization in the payment for labour, proper organization of wages and improvement in the housing and living conditions of the workers. Comrade Stalin pointed to the necessity of putting an end to lack of personal responsibility in the organization of work in the factories and of seriously taking up the question of mechanizing labour processes.

In the postwar five-year plan period the importance of these historic statements rises with renewed force.

To carry out the immense production program of the postwar five-year plan, the country needs millions of new skilled workers.



The Soviet State is successfully solving this problem—one of the most important and difficult in the postwar period.

In socialist society, the sources that are utilized under the capitalist mode of production for replenishing industry with labour power have been liquidated. In the U.S.S.R. there is no unemployment, there is no reserve army of unemployed from which the capitalists recruit the workers they need. In our country poverty has long been eliminated from the rural districts, and the propertyless and landless category of peasants who continuously fill the ranks of the unemployed in capitalist countries has been liquidated.

To supply industry with skilled workers is one of the chief functions of the Socialist State. The national economy of the U.S.S.R. is supplied with labour power through the state labour reserves system (vocational and railway vocational schools and factory apprenticeship) and by the organized voluntary recruiting of workers in the kolkhozes.

According to the returns of the State Planning Board of the U.S.S.R. published in 1947 and 1948, in the first two postwar years the factory apprenticeship schools, vocational schools and railway trade schools trained over a million young workers—382,000 in 1946 and 790,000 in 1947. In the same period, 4,700,000 new skilled workers were

trained by the method of individual and group apprenticeship and at training classes organized at the factories. Thus, in two years, about 6,000,000 new skilled workers were trained (almost equal to the number of workers employed in the whole of the manufacturing industry in England in 1946). In addition to the new skilled workers that were trained in 1946 and 1947, 6,600,000 workers improved their skill.

The role of the state labour reserves is increasing in importance year after year. In 1948, a million young skilled workers finished their training at factory apprenticeship schools, vocational schools and railway trade schools and were sent to jobs in the mining and manufacturing industries, the building industry and on the railways.

In the same year, 2,300,000 skilled workers were newly trained by means of individual and group training at the factories, and 3,800,000 workers improved their skill at training classes.

The supply of the national economy with labour power was also facilitated by the rapid demobilization of the Soviet Army.

But the voluntary recruiting of labour power does not fully solve the problem. "In order to ensure the necessary labour power for our factories," Comrade Stalin points out, "we must see to it that the workers remain in the factories and



that the latter have a more or less permanent personnel.”\* Comrade Stalin teaches us that a necessary condition for creating permanent staffs at the factories is the consistent application of the principle of material incentive in the payment for labour and the abolition of equalization in wages.

The application of the principle of material incentive to the whole of the wage system served as a powerful lever for accelerating production and increasing the productive forces during the prewar five-year plan periods and during the Patriotic War.

With the termination of the war and the reconversion of industry to peacetime production, special attention had to be paid to the consistent operation of the most important economic law of Socialism, namely, the socialist principle of distribution according to quantity and quality of work performed. The role of wages increased in importance, especially after the reform of the currency and the abolition of rationing.

In order to increase productivity of labour and output, the Five-Year Plan for the Postwar Rehabilitation and Further Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. set the task of fully utilizing the encouragement system of wages

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\* J. V. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 362.

—piecework and progressive piecework. The employment of the piecework and progressive piecework system is one of the conditions for the development of socialist emulation and the Stakhanov movement. Of immense importance is continuous improvement in the methods of employing these systems of wages.

Thus, in June 1946, the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. established a new system of wages for workers in the lumber industry. Previously, elements of equalization had been widespread in the payment for labour in this industry; the pay received by the hewing, hauling and carting teams was divided equally among the members of the teams irrespective of degree of skill. The system of paying different rates for different degrees of skill so as to ensure higher pay for the more highly skilled workers was practically not employed. This caused a great flux of labour power, established rates of output were not fulfilled, and earnings were low. The Government's decision abolished this vicious system of payment for labour and created all the conditions for a rapid improvement of the work of the lumber industry.

The introduction of the progressive piecework system of payment for labour is accompanied by a wider employment of bonus systems of payment for managerial, engineering and technical staffs in industry.



The chief prerequisites for the successful employment of the piece and progressive piecework system is the proper fixing of output rates. Even if wage scales and the division of work into categories keep proper proportions between the different rates, equalization is still possible if the output rates are fixed "by rule of thumb," without sound technical grounds; for then, some rates may be easily overfulfilled, while others may be too difficult even for an experienced worker.

In 1947, considerable work was done in the industrial enterprises in revising the obsolete and low output rates, in introducing average-progressive rates based on sound technical grounds. The introduction of rates based on sound technical grounds secures the socialist principle of payment for work, stimulates the growth of productivity of labour and increases earnings. Improvement in the rating of labour processes creates enormous possibilities for the further increase of production.

To attract workers to the leading branches of industry and to create permanent staffs, the post-war five-year plan provides for a higher level of pay for workers, engineers and technicians in the key branches of heavy industry, primarily the coal, metallurgical and oil industries. This gives expression to the fundamental socialist principle

of distribution according to quantity and quality of work performed, allowance being made for its complexity.

In August 1946, a decision of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. was promulgated "On Raising the Pay and Building Houses for Workers, Engineers, and Technicians in Industrial Enterprises and on Building Jobs in the Urals, Siberia and in the Far East." Taking into consideration the exceptional difficulties created for the workers by the severe climatic conditions in these regions, the Council of Ministers ordered that the pay of workers, engineers and technicians engaged in heavy, underground and high temperature work in the leading branches of industry (coal, oil, metallurgical, chemical and others), and on the erection of new enterprises in these branches, be raised 20%. At the same time, the Council of Ministers sanctioned for the second half of 1946 and for 1947 an enlarged housing program in the Urals, Siberia and the Far East, and made provisions enabling workers, engineers and technicians and office employees in the industrial enterprises to purchase their own houses on easy terms.

By another decision, the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. raised the pay of workers employed in the oil industry and in the gasification of coal.



In September 1947 the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. passed a decision "On Preferential Benefits for Underground Workers, Managers and Engineers and Technicians in the Coal Mining Industry and those Engaged in Sinking Coal Pits."

Coal miners and workers engaged in sinking pits were granted considerable benefits. The Government made provision for special treatment in the payment of old-age pensions for underground workers, section managers and also for certified engineers and technicians in the coal industry and those engaged in the sinking of coal pits. At the end of each calendar year workers in the coal mining industry and those engaged in the sinking of pits are given a long-service grant. The Government also instituted the title of "Honorary Miner."

An important factor in improving the work of the metallurgical industry was the Government's decision granting preferential benefits to a number of categories of workers in the iron and steel industry. In the metallurgical industry, as well as in the coal industry, the Government instituted the practice of awarding decorations and medals of the U.S.S.R. for long service.

These decisions of the Government have been an enormously important factor in the successful postwar rehabilitation and further development of the leading branches of heavy industry.

They have facilitated a further improvement in the welfare of the working people, stimulated the increase in the productivity of labour, tightened up discipline and helped to create permanent staffs of workers at the enterprises.

Of exceptional importance in creating permanent staffs of workers in the enterprises is the acceleration of housing development in the post-war period.

Since the war, a great deal of work has been done in the matter of housing. During the four years of the postwar five-year plan period, the state, and the people assisted with state credit, built new and restored old houses in towns and workers' settlements of a total floor space of over 72,000,000 sq. metres. During these years, hundreds of thousands of workers and office employees have received new, well-appointed apartments.

By order of the Government, factories in the leading branches of industry have extensively developed the building of cottages to be sold to workers, engineers and technicians on the long-term instalment plan. The mass production of pre-fabricated houses has been started on an extensive scale.

The measures taken by the Party and the Government to secure permanent staffs of skilled workers for the enterprises have facilitated the steady growth in the number of factory and office



workers employed in industry. During the first three years of the postwar five-year plan period, the number of factory and office workers employed in the national economy increased by over 6,000,000 and exceeded the level of the prewar year, 1940, by 10 %. The overwhelming majority of these filled the ranks of the industrial workers. The Soviet Government has successfully solved the extremely difficult problem of supplying industry and the building trades with labour power.

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Increase in production and construction is achieved in the postwar five-year plan period on the basis of the acceleration of technical progress and the development of science as provided for in the plan. "...Mechanization of labour processes is for us the *new* and *decisive* factor, without which we shall be unable to maintain either our tempo or the new scale of production," said Comrade Stalin,\* in 1931, in connection with the economic tasks of the U.S.S.R. This statement of Comrade Stalin's is of exceptionally great importance in the postwar period, when industrial production and construction are being carried out on a hitherto unprecedented scale. The five-year plan provides for a sharp increase in the mechanization

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\* J. V. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 361.

of labour in all branches of the national economy. The technical equipment of the industrial workers will exceed the prewar level by approximately 50 %. The equipment, technology and organization of production are being considerably improved.

A large amount of work has been done in the postwar period to mechanize heavy labour absorbing processes. Mechanization is the decisive condition for lightening labour and for increasing its productivity. The saving in labour achieved by mechanization releases considerable resources of labour power for an additional increase in output in the given or in other branches of industry. In the coal and lumber industries, the mechanization of heavy and labour-absorbing operations already exceeds the prewar level. Extensive work is being conducted for the further mechanization of production in the metallurgical and other branches of industry. The enormous effect mechanization has upon production can be illustrated by a number of examples.

It is known that in the Soviet coal industry, the mechanization of the processes of hewing (cutting and breaking down), loading, carting to pit mouth and loading into railway cars above ground is almost complete. As regards technical equipment, our coal mines are ahead of the most developed capitalist countries. A backward link in the general chain of processes in mining coal in



our mines was the drawing of coal in headings and of coal and earth in preparatory drawing. As a rule, this work was done by hand. Lately, the Donets Basin and other coal fields have been receiving increasing quantities of highly productive machines—mining combines, coal cutters, coal loaders and earth loaders—designed by Soviet engineers. This makes possible the mechanization of all the processes of coal getting—from hewing to loading into railway cars. The experience of the advanced pits shows that the completion of complex mechanization by the employment of mining combines, loading machines, etc., at least doubles the average daily output of the pits.

The Zhdanov, Krasnoye Sormovo Machine-Building Plant, one of the oldest in Russia, is the initiator of the mechanization of the high labour-absorbing processes according to a single plan for the whole plant. The plan was drawn up on the basis of proposals made by the workers, foremen and rationalizers of the plant, and was carried out by the staff itself. In only nine months of 1948, the operation of this plan resulted in additional accumulations amounting to 6,000,000 rubles and in a saving of 734,000 working hours in building ships and locomotives, and of 2,000,000 kw-h in electricity. The Kirov Electrosila Plant in Leningrad organized a special shop on the lines adopted by the Sormovo Plant and mechanized

such high labour-absorbing processes as the loading of loose materials, moulding, and others. According to incomplete returns, the mechanization of these processes, in 1948, released over 200 skilled workers and saved hundreds of thousands of rubles.

The example of these and other advanced enterprises shows what large potentialities for increasing productivity of labour are created by mechanization. It also shows that every enterprise possesses many possibilities for mechanizing labour processes by its own efforts.

In conformity with the tasks set by the five-year plan, the extensive electrification of production processes is being carried through in the postwar period. There has been an increase in the demand for electricity for technological needs, especially in the manufacture of non-ferrous and light metals, steel alloys and chemical products. The fixing of separate motors to each large machine and lathe (instead of having one motor for a group of machines) is being practised on a large scale, and this is resulting in a great saving of electricity, in a considerable increase in the productivity of labour and in an improvement in the quality of the goods produced.

In the postwar five-year plan period, socialist industry is being resolutely transferred to the automatic regulation and control of production



processes. This automatization ensures a big increase in productivity of labour, greatly accelerates production processes, improves working conditions and helps to abolish the distinction between manual and mental labour.

Soviet engineers have designed automatic lines of lathes for the production of a number of machine parts. These lines increase productivity of labour and accelerate production processes no less than tenfold.

In the metallurgical plants that are being restored and newly built, the work of blast and open hearth furnaces, the furnaces of blooming mills, electric furnaces, boilers and other units is to be automatically controlled.

Automatic control is being widely introduced in electric power stations. A number of hydroelectric power stations are already under complete automatic control.

A striking example of the achievements of Soviet engineering in the introduction of automatic control of production processes was quoted at the Ninth Moscow Regional and Eighth Moscow City Joint Conference of the C.P.S.U.(B.). Members of the staffs of the Machine Tool Experimental Institute and of the Stankokonstruktsia Plant designed and built an automatically controlled factory for making automobile pistons. At this factory all the production processes, from

loading the casting machines to packing the finished goods, are automatically controlled. This automatic factory is a tremendous achievement for Soviet engineering and is the prototype of the engineering of communist society.

A characteristic feature of the postwar development of industry is the employment of new, improved technological processes, the improved organization of production. In this, the experience gained in the organization of the production of war supplies during the Great Patriotic War is of extreme value.

In the postwar reconversion of enterprises, a most important part was played by the organization of production according to schedule and the establishment of strict technological discipline, which ensured the output of commodities of good quality.

Mass line production methods are being more and more extensively employed, enterprises are paying much attention to the making of their own tools and lathes and to improving the organization of their preliminary parts shops. New, advanced methods of production are being introduced, and the methods employed by the best plants, shops and Stakhanovite innovators are being widely adopted.

In 1949, 90 new machine lines and line sections are being organized at the Moscow machine-



tool and tool-making plants. This is over three times as many as were in operation last year. In 1948, 6 machine lines were organized at the Moscow Frazer Plant. This resulted in a sharp increase in the output of tools. In 1949, several more lines are to be organized. The line method of making drills at the Frazer Plant will approximately double the output of the drill department.

Before the war, the Orjonikidze Machine-Building Plant in the Urals, whose twentieth anniversary the country noted in 1948, manufactured 457 types of machines. It produced equipment for blast and open hearth furnaces, rolling mills and the mechanisms for them, cranes and breakers for the metallurgical industry and so forth. This was typical individual production. During the war the plant began to produce war supplies of a single type and passed over to serial production. At the present time it is again turning out different types of complicated equipment for heavy industry. This includes boring installations for the oil industry, powerful tricube excavators and rolling mills. Utilizing the experience it gained in wartime, however, it did not revert to its prewar methods when resuming the manufacture of individual machines. The manufacture of the largest and most complicated machines was organized on the serial production principle. With this object, the management of the plant was

reorganized, the designing department was reinforced and changes were introduced in the organization of planning and accounting. New shops were organized at the plant for making different types of articles with a complete cycle of operations, for example: the boring machine shop, excavator shop, and so forth. The designers directed their efforts to securing the utmost simplification of designs and the unification and standardization of parts; this increased the possibility of employing serial methods of production. The new organization of production methods called for the employment of more efficient technical methods; 75 % of the parts in number, and 57 % in weight, are now made on casting machines. The stamping and casting of parts are now widely employed in place of forging.

The example of the Lubertsy Agricultural Machinery Plant is interesting. Until quite recently the plant was working badly. Suffice it to say that it carried out its 1946 plan only 64 %. Today it is in the ranks of the advanced plants in the country. Its reorganization began with the preliminary parts shops, the output capacity of which was increased to the level of the assembly shops and of the requirements of the plan. In the shops the line method of production was introduced. The daily schedule became the law of the plant. As a result of working to the daily schedule, the



production cycle of the chief items produced was reduced by half. Like the Krasnoye Sormovo Plant, this plant too carried out the technical reorganization of nearly all its shops by its own efforts. The result was a great saving of labour in producing the various items. From March 1947 onwards, the plant regularly fulfilled its monthly plans, and it fulfilled its 1948 plan ahead of time.

Proof of the high technical and organizational level of production in Soviet enterprises is provided by the following fact. One of the most complicated technical and organizational problems of the line method of production is its application in the production of new models. Usually this means stopping output for a considerable length of time. The Ford plant, for example, did not produce a single car for six months when preparing to produce its 1928 model. General Motors, another American firm, spent four months in preparing to produce a new model. Soviet people have proved that it is possible to prepare to produce new models without stopping output. The splendid staff of the Order of Lenin Stalin Automobile Plant set itself the task of turning out in 1947-48 a new motor truck, the "ZIS-150" without stopping output for a single day. After careful preparation, the unit assembly shops were rearranged and two parallel production lines were formed, each producing identical parts of the old

and new models. The patriots at the Stalin Plant successfully carried out the task they had set themselves.

An enormously important part in promoting the technical progress in the U.S.S.R. is played by the Stakhanovites, the innovators of new methods of production. The Stakhanovites come out as the promoters of new technical ideas; they boldly introduce them in production and, as a result, achieve an enormous increase in productivity of labour.

Proper division of labour, precise organization of work, strict calculation of forces for each operation, utilization of every minute and every second and steady and confident rhythm—all these most important features of Stakhanovite work fully retain their importance today. And today, these features distinguish the work of the Stakhanovites and single them out as the advanced men and women in production. But in addition to these features, another characteristic feature of Stakhanovite work has reached full maturity, viz., the bold introduction of new technological processes, abandonment of established, obsolete technical methods and resolute substitution of improved methods.

Comrade Bortkevich, a turner at the Svetlana Plant in Leningrad, raised the speed of metal cutting on his lathe to 700 metres per minute.



He began to make conical gears in 6 m. 49 s. whereas they had formerly taken 2 h. 40 m. Thereby, Bortkevich opened a new chapter in the technique of cold processing of metal. This was the result of persevering work, in which it is already difficult to draw a line of demarcation between the manual labour of the worker and the mental labour of the engineer. The search for a new cutting tool geometry, changes in the design of tool blocks and strict rationalization of feed—such are some of the items of the technical researches carried out by the lathe operator Bortkevich. For introducing high-speed methods of processing metal by cutting which ensured a considerable increase in productivity of labour, lathe operators G. Bortkevich, A. Markov, N. Ugolkov, P. Bykov, K. Tyutin and R. Denisov, and milling machine operators N. Simanovsky and Y. Chebyshev were awarded Stalin Prizes.

High-speed methods are being more and more extensively employed. Thus, in 1948, the number of turners in Leningrad who employ high-speed methods increased fivefold, the number of milling machine operators who employ these methods increased threefold, etc. The promoters of the Stakhanov high-speed methods are developing Soviet technology in the direction of intensifying production processes, i.e., in one of the most progressive and promising directions of modern

technology. Only Soviet technology possesses such inexhaustible sources for accelerating progress like the creative efforts of the Stakhanovites.

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The systematic introduction of advanced machinery in all branches of industrial production, the rational organization of work, the tightening of labour discipline and the organization of extensive socialist emulation have resulted in a further increase in productivity of labour in the postwar period.

The Party of Lenin and Stalin and the Soviet Government attached first-class importance to increasing productivity of labour at all stages of socialist construction.

In thirteen years—from 1928 to 1941—the annual output per worker increased approximately fourfold.

During the Great Patriotic War, when the number of workers employed in industry diminished, the increase in productivity of labour compensated to a considerable degree for the shortage of labour power. New workers with little training were brought into industry; but thanks to the intense supplementary training they went through and to their self-sacrificing efforts, productivity of labour in industry as a whole increased 19% in 1942, and another 7% in 1943, over the pre-



ceding year. In the armament industry the increase was much higher.

In the Five-Year Plan for the Postwar Rehabilitation and Further Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. increase in productivity of labour occupies an important place. The volume of industrial production in 1950 is to exceed that of 1940 by 66,500 million rubles. Of this increase, more than 53,000 million rubles is to be obtained as a result of increased productivity of labour. The increase in productivity of labour provided for in the plan (36% above the prewar level), will save for the national economy five years' work of 3,400,000 workers.

In the second half of 1945, a slight drop in the output per worker was observed in a number of industrial enterprises owing to reconversion to more labour-absorbing peacetime production, but this was stopped as early as the first quarter of 1946. Beginning with the second quarter of 1946, productivity of labour continuously and persistently rose. It must be borne in mind that after the war, the Government abolished mass overtime which had been the practice in wartime. The normal working day and vacations for factory and office workers were fully restored.

The increase in the average daily output in the postwar period is due to widely developed socialist emulation, rapid technical progress in industry,

mechanization of labour and improved organization of production.

In 1947, the productivity of labour of industrial workers increased 13% over that of 1946; in 1948 it increased 15% over that of 1947 and exceeded the prewar level. The majority of industries successfully reached the targets set by the state plan as regards increasing productivity of labour. In 1949, productivity of labour is continuing to rise at the same rate as in 1948.

Thus, in the postwar five-year plan period important successes have been achieved in raising productivity of labour.

These successes are inseverably connected with the labour enthusiasm of the masses, which is the keynote of the struggle to fulfil and overfulfil the five-year plan.

Socialist emulation is the most striking manifestation of the patriotism of the Soviet people, of their new attitude towards work and of their richness of mind. During the prewar Stalin five-year plan periods, and during the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet people displayed the magnificent qualities that are characteristic of them—clarity of aim, firmness of character, boldness of design, determination and perseverance in surmounting difficulties, and what is most characteristic—high consciousness of the public interest. These new qualities of the Soviet people were created by the



Soviet system and by the work of communist education the Party of Lenin and Stalin has conducted among the working people. In the postwar period these new qualities have been the source of the flourishing growth of socialist emulation.

The Bolshevik Party and the Soviet Government have set the exceedingly important task of rallying the masses of the workers, peasants and intellectuals for the purpose not only of fulfilling, but of overfulfilling the postwar five-year plan on the basis of socialist emulation. The extraordinary dimensions of socialist emulation among the working people of the U.S.S.R. in the struggle to fulfil the postwar five-year plan ahead of time, the purposefulness and effectiveness of socialist emulation, are the result of the energetic organizing activities of the Bolshevik Party, which directs socialist emulation, widely disseminates its achievements and encourages the initiative of the advanced men and women in industry.

After the war, new detachments of advanced workers, of innovators in their particular fields who show high productivity of labour, have arisen in all branches of industry.

Alexander Tyurenkov, a hewer at the Kalinin Pit in the Donets Basin, famous for his Stakhanovite work, strove to put out more coal and increase productivity of labour, and with this in

view proposed that the steps at the coal face be lengthened so as to allow of collective group work. In 1948, Alexander Tyurenkov's team hewed 1,069 tons of coal per shift. The reorganization of the work at the coal face on Tyurenkov's Stakhanovite collective method increases the productivity of the hewer's labour threefold and over.

In 1946, the miners in the North Urals bauxite mines developed socialist emulation among themselves in employing high-speed methods in digging new pits and workings. The high-speed miners regularly dig from 140 to 150 long metres of workings per month, instead of the usual 30 metres. The highest results have been achieved by the teams headed by Comrades Pronichkin and Minzaripov. Minzaripov's brigade dug as much as 200 metres. These high results were due to the introduction of the cyclical schedule, improved organization of work, and parallel processes, i.e., boring, clearing earth and propping.

The whole country knows Maria Volkova, the weaver at Mill No. 1 of the Orekhovo-Zuyevo Textile Combine. In 1946, she used to mind 12 looms instead of the usual 4, and then went over to 16 looms. For introducing rationalized, highly productive methods in the textile industry which make it possible for weavers to mind many looms, Maria Volkova, Anna Kashayeva, Yekaterina Shi-



bayeva and Anna Pechkina were, in 1947, awarded Stalin Prizes.

At the Lubertsy Agricultural Machinery Plant, Comrade Sukharev, a foreman, decided to mill instead of plane flat surfaces of machines parts. Assisted by the engineers at the plant, he designed a special cutter for high-speed milling. In the section Comrade Sukharev is in charge of, productivity of labour increased four- and fivefold.

In every branch of industry and in every enterprise there are advanced Stakhanovites who achieve high productivity of labour by constantly improving their technical knowledge, by making the fullest use of up-to-date machines, and by skilfully organizing their work. They are showing the entire mass of the workers the way still further to increase productivity of labour, and are influencing them by force of example.

In the course of the struggle the masses are waging to fulfil the postwar five-year plan, new forms and methods of socialist emulation have arisen.

In his address on the thirtieth anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, Comrade Molotov spoke of a new remarkable feature in socialist emulation, namely, that individual workers pledge themselves to fulfil annual plans, and the five-year plan as a whole ahead of time, which had not been the case before the war.

This movement reveals the high level of socialist consciousness of the workingmen and workingwomen in the U.S.S.R. who regard their individual work as being inseverably bound with the interests of the state as a whole. This movement also testifies to their cultural and technical progress, which enables them to look far ahead and foresee the sum total of measures required to fulfil plan targets, to calculate the effectiveness of these measures and to achieve firm and lasting successes. The enormous economic importance of the new movement lies in that, in reaching their targets ahead of schedule, the workingmen and workingwomen bring to light immense reserves which enable them to overfulfil the plan as a whole.

Anna Kuznetsova, a young worker at the Moscow Low-Cylinder Automobile Plant, was one of those who headed the movement to achieve the output rates planned for 1950 ahead of schedule. The Youth Brigade of which Anna Kuznetsova was in charge achieved the 1950 output rate as early as 1947. To carry out their bold plan, Anna Kuznetsova and her comrades introduced important changes in the technology of their work, used new attachments, altered the construction of their tools and increased cutting speed.

At the time of the thirtieth anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, over 15,000



young followers of Anna Kuznetsova had already attained the output rates planned for 1950.

In 1948, the movement to fulfil annual plans and the five-year plan as a whole ahead of schedule continued to expand. In Moscow alone, there were in that year over 80,000 young workers who had already fulfilled their five-year plans.

In the postwar period immense popularity has been won by Vasili Matrosov, Alexander Ivanov, Nikolai Rossiisky, Andrei Yakushin and many other outstanding organizers of socialist emulation who have become famous not only for their own individual feats in the field of production, but also for their conspicuous ability to generalize experience gained in employing advanced methods and in making it widely known.

What was the central idea proposed by Vasili Matrosov, the clicker at the Paris Commune Shoe Factory in Moscow? Vasili Matrosov traversed the regular path of the Stakhanovite. As early as in 1946 he fulfilled two-and-a-half annual assignments. He got his brigade to follow his example; he taught his comrades more rational and economical methods of cutting out the leather and of making the shoes. His brigade became the best in the shop. But this famous Stakhanovite did not halt there. He was concerned about the whole shop. True, the shop fulfilled its plan, but the average figures of plan fulfilment concealed the

fact that while some workers in the shop worked well, others worked badly; at the same time these figures concealed the immense possibilities that existed for overfulfilling the plan. Matrosov was able to discern these reserves and to appreciate their importance. The plan he drew up for introducing Stakhanovite methods in the whole shop turned out to be a plan for mobilizing the internal reserves of the whole factory. The way to utilize these reserves is to raise the backward to the level of the best—such was the main idea of Vasili Matrosov's plan.

Vasili Matrosov's proposal to teach the whole staff the methods employed by the advanced workers, their methods of utilizing the machines and saving raw materials, fuel and other materials, enabled the clicking department and the factory as a whole, to achieve a big success. But the most important thing is the high fertility of Matrosov's fundamental idea, which very soon was carried outside his shop and the Paris Commune Shoe Factory and became the basis of collective Stakhanovite work in all branches of industry.

A characteristic feature of socialist emulation at the present time is the close cooperation between the workers and engineering and technical personnel in working out and introducing new methods of raising productivity of labour, in im-



proving the technical and economic indices of production and the quality of goods produced.

The leaders of production—foremen and technologists—now act as the organizers of collective, Stakhanovite work. Nikolai Rossiisky, a foreman at the Calibre Plant in Moscow, was awarded a Stalin Prize for having, in conjunction with Yakov Osnas, a shop manager, and Marina Korentseva, a technologist, brought about “a radical improvement in the technological processes of production and the organization of collective, Stakhanovite work which ensure a considerable reduction in cost of production and an increase in productivity of labour and quality of goods produced.” The section that Rossiisky was in charge of became Stakhanovite, and already in the autumn of 1947 reached the level of production that had been planned for 1950. A Stalin Prize was also awarded another outstanding organizer of collective, Stakhanovite work, namely, the Urals technologist Alexander Ivanov. The chief success in production achieved by Ivanov, Rossiisky and thousands of other foremen and technologists is that they combined the highly productive labour of the workers with exemplary organization of production.

At the Orjonikidze Machine-Building Plant in the Urals, as a result of the cooperation between the engineering and technical staff and the work-

ers, "high-production sections" were formed. In 1946, the core makers in the steel foundry lost a large amount of working time because the working place was badly arranged, there was no precise planning, technology was faulty, and there was a shortage of tools and appliances. A brigade of engineers and technicians, in conjunction with the Stakhanovites of the shop, drew up a plan of organizational and technical measures with a view to increasing productivity of labour in that shop. It is characteristic that the reorganization of production proposed by this brigade did not entail expenditure of capital. It consisted mainly in a new arrangement of the working places, in splitting up the working processes, which rendered possible the introduction of specialization and line methods, and in the elementary mechanization and equipment of the work places with convenient and productive appliances. The effectiveness of this new method of organizing work is shown by the fact that the amount of labour time spent in making a core was reduced from 893 to 265 seconds; and the distance the workers had to go in getting materials and appliances was reduced to one-tenth. In the first half of 1947 productivity of labour in this section was already increased 87 %. The first experiment in the foundry was followed by the formation of high-production sections in other shops. The staff of the plant



set itself the task of passing from high-production sections to high-production shops.

The new forms of socialist emulation put higher demands upon plant managers and Party leaders in the matter of planning and organizing production in the plant as a whole.

A condition for the successful development of socialist emulation is order in production, rhythmical working of the plant, and strict discipline and organization in all sections.

The powerful upsurge of the labour activity of the Soviet people reveals what an inexhaustible source of creative energy lies in the socialist organization of labour. The achievements of the men and women Stakhanovites in the enterprises are the genuine national pride of the Soviet people. In order to make use of all the potentialities that lie in this sphere, our Party and economic organizations must continue their unceasing activities in guiding socialist emulation, in making the methods of the advanced workers widely known, and in raising the bulk of the workers to the level of the best.

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One of the chief sources of the enormous capital investments in the national economy of the U.S.S.R. are the internal accumulations of Soviet industry.

Increase in productivity of labour and systematic reduction of cost of production were most important factors in increasing socialist accumulation in the period of fulfilment of the prewar Stalin five-year plans.

During the Great Patriotic War, increase in productivity of labour and sharp reduction of cost of production of mass produced types of armaments saved several billion rubles for the national economy.

Fulfilment of the postwar program of rehabilitating and further developing the national economy entails a colossal expenditure of funds. A considerable part of this expenditure must be covered by increasing the internal accumulations of industry.

In the period of 1946-50 savings resulting from reducing cost of production in industry below that of 1945 must amount to about 120,000 million rubles. This sum can cover almost half the centralized capital investments in the national economy as a whole during the five years and four-fifths of the capital investments in industry. Thus the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the postwar five-year plan depend to a large degree upon consistent and strict economy, on the mobilization of all internal resources, on reduction of cost of production.

In 1947, most of the Ministries fulfilled their



plans for reducing cost of production. Hundreds of advanced enterprises not only reduced cost of production to the degree required by their plans, but even obtained large accumulations over and above the plan.

Reduction of cost of production, increase in volume of output and improvement in the utilization of circulating funds in industry resulted, in 1947, in an increase in the proportion of accumulations from state enterprises to the total revenues of the state budget. In that year such accumulations amounted to 68% of the total state revenues compared with 46% in 1945.

The consummation of the postwar reconversion of the national economy, the mastery of new technical appliances, the further rise in the cultural and technical level of the working class and the improvement in the welfare of the people created the conditions for a rapid increase of productivity of labour in 1948, and consequently, for a further increase of output and reduction of cost of production. The reform of the currency strengthened cost accounting relations in the national economy and gave the managing staffs of enterprises a greater incentive to run their plants on a profitable basis. Already in the first months of 1948, Soviet industry took a big step toward reducing cost of production. The assignment for reducing cost of production for the second quar-

ter was overfulfilled. In the first half year, reduction of cost of production resulted in a saving of 1,500 million rubles over and above the saving planned for. For the first nine months of 1948 the saving on this item amounted to over 4,000 million rubles over and above the plan. The returns on state plan fulfilment in 1948 published by the Central Statistical Board of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. show that the total saving on this item over and above the plan amounted to more than 6,000 million rubles. Thus, the 1948 assignment for reducing cost of production in industry was considerably overfulfilled.

Month after month, the struggle for economy, for mobilizing all the resources of industry, for reducing cost of production, is assuming wider and wider dimensions. Today, more than ever before, the Soviet people are treating public, socialist property with the care and thrift of owners—as indeed they are. The struggle for economy, for the elimination of all superfluities and mismanagement, for the rational utilization of equipment, raw materials, fuel and auxiliary materials is the vital concern of every Soviet worker, engineer, technician and office employee. The characteristic feature of the Stakhanov movement at the present time is the combination of the struggle for high productivity of labour with



thrift in the expenditure of funds and materials. The aim of the best Stakhanovites is not only to produce more goods of high quality but also to produce them at the lowest cost.

The initiator of the idea of drawing up Stakhanovite plans for combating waste in production was Andrei Yakushin, a fitter at the Second Moscow Brakes Works. These plans are based on the numerous rationalization proposals made by workers, foremen, engineers, technicians and the best of the workers at the different plants for eliminating every kind of unproductive expenditure and waste in production. The execution of these plans results in a considerable saving in labour and materials, and in a reduction of cost of production. In 1948, the Stakhanovites at machine-building and tool-making plants made 20,000 proposals for eliminating waste, and the adoption of these proposals resulted in a saving of over 58,000,000 rubles.

One of the most noteworthy events of 1948 was the extensive movement that arose for giving up state subsidies. This movement was initiated by the staffs of nine plants in Moscow, viz., the First State Ball-Bearing Plant, the Motorcycle Works, the Compressor Plant, the Manometer Plant, the Instrument Making Plant, the Dies and Jigs Plant, the Electric Pumps Plant, the Kalinin Plant, and the Krasnopresnya Paint and Varnish

Factory. In the beginning of 1948 the staffs of these plants addressed a letter to Comrade Stalin in which they pledged themselves to make their respective plants work without a loss. The initiative taken by these nine plants met with an ardent response in all branches of industry. The movement for working without subsidies, for increasing profitableness, assumed enormous dimensions and even spread to plants that were not receiving state subsidies.

A vivid expression of profound understanding of state interests was the initiative taken by the staffs of thirty-five of the leading plants in Moscow in pledging themselves to give the state, in 1948, accumulations amounting to 172,000,000 rubles over and above the plan. The managers of these leading enterprises wrote a letter to Comrade Stalin in which they called upon other enterprises to follow their example and expressed the conviction that "...the industry of Moscow as a whole will be able this year to provide no less than one thousand million rubles of accumulations over and above the plan." A fortnight after the letter of the thirty-five plants was published, a conference of industrial workers convened by the Moscow Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) "corrected" this figure and pledged itself to give our Motherland not one but two thousand million rubles of accumulations above the plan. As is



known, the Moscovites kept their pledge, and ahead of time.

Moscow's example was followed by the industrial workers in other cities. More and more millions and thousands of millions of rubles were added to Moscow's two thousand million. This splendid movement was a manifestation of the patriotism of the Soviet people, of their indomitable will and determination to carry out the five-year plan in four years.

As a result of the increase in the profitability of the industrial enterprises, revenue from the profits of state enterprises amounted, in 1948, to 2,600 million rubles above the plan.

The beginning of 1949 was marked by a new patriotic movement of enormous state importance. One hundred and three leading Moscow enterprises pledged themselves to release for other state purposes, in 1949, a sum amounting to 400,000,000 rubles by accelerating the turnover of circulating funds.

Following the example of the advanced enterprises, the industrial workers of Moscow, in a letter to Comrade Stalin, pledged themselves to release in this way, in Moscow industry as a whole, a sum amounting to 1,300 million rubles in 1949. This pledge demonstrated the enormous potentialities of our industry, potentialities that lie in the very system of planned socialist econ-

omy. The aim the Moscow workers set themselves testifies to the growth of the working people's political consciousness and knowledge of economics. Together with cost of production, turnover of circulating funds is an index of the quality of a plant's operations. Reduction of the time taken by the production cycle, liquidation of superfluous stocks of materials and the quickest disposal of goods—such are the three chief sources for accelerating turnover and for releasing circulating funds. It is here that large reserves for further improving the economic indices of industry are to be found.

Very soon the patriotic example set by the Moscow workers was followed by hundreds and thousands of mills, factories and mines. By making better use of their circulating funds, many enterprises have already released millions of rubles from their turnover.

The successes Soviet industry has achieved in increasing output and reducing cost of production are a direct result of the vast amount of work the Party and the Government have done still further to improve socialist planning, organization of the supply of materials, and management of production.

In the struggle to increase the profitability of enterprises, of great organizational importance is the introduction of average progressive stand-



ards of utilizing machines, mechanisms and units, and also rates of expenditure of fuel, power, auxiliary materials and raw materials.

Average progressive standards are the basis of Bolshevik planning. Unlike the old technical-economic standards, which, as a rule, were based on average indices, the new average progressive standards are based on the mass experience of advanced workers, engineers and technicians who disclose immense possibilities of overfulfilling state plans.

Thanks to the good use they made of their internal production reserves, a number of branches of industry have already reached the prewar technical-economic standards of utilizing machines, mechanisms and units. At the enterprises controlled by the Ministry of the Oil Industry, the speed of the exploitational boring of oil wells has increased 28% over that of 1940. At the district power stations controlled by the Ministry of Power Stations, the amount of fuel spent per kw-h of electrical energy produced has been reduced 5% below that of 1940. The utilization of capacity of the cement works controlled by the Ministry of the Building Materials Industry of the U.S.S.R. has also improved compared with prewar times.

Important successes have been achieved by the iron and steel industry of the U.S.S.R. Socialist emulation in achieving high output rates from

blast and open hearth furnaces has produced good results. Already in May, a large number of metallurgical plants had overfulfilled the average progressive standards of utilization of furnaces set by the 1948 state plan. In view of this, the iron and steel workers undertook additional socialist obligations, and each plant fixed definite new average progressive standards of utilization of equipment, higher than those it had worked to before. But even these higher standards were exceeded at a number of plants.

Taking the plants controlled by the Ministry of the Metallurgical Industry as a whole, the utilization of blast furnace capacity in 1948 was 13% higher than in 1940; and the output of steel per sq.m. of open hearth furnaces was 12% higher than the prewar output. The metallurgical workers honourably fulfilled their pledge to Comrade Stalin to master progressive standards of utilization of blast and open hearth furnaces. They did not halt there, however. In 1949 they showed another great improvement: the indices of utilization of blast furnace capacity showed an increase of 6% and that of open hearth furnaces 11% over that of 1948.

The introduction and assimilation of progressive technical-economic rates are not, however, proceeding with the same success everywhere. A number of coal pits and textile mills, for example,



have not yet reached the prewar standards of utilizing equipment.

In view of the vast scale on which production and construction are proceeding in the postwar five-year plan period, the problem of the economical expenditure of material resources has assumed enormous importance. "Upon the proper organization of supply of materials, the creation of necessary material stocks, and the economical utilization of the state resources," Comrade Molotov pointed out, "largely depends the tempo of development of our economy."

In this respect, the returns of 1948 are noteworthy. As the Central Statistical Board reported, in 1948 the state supplies plan was fulfilled and the supply of raw materials, auxiliary materials, fuel, electric power and equipment for the national economy was considerably improved. Of exceptionally great importance in this sphere too was the creative initiative of the workers, engineers, and technicians in the industrial enterprises. In 1948, the textile workers of Ivanovo-Voznesensk saved 2,223 tons of raw cotton and flax and 785 tons of yarn. This made it possible to produce 32,000,000 metres of cotton and linen fabrics and more than 34,000,000 metres of unbleached linen over and above the plan.

The blast furnaces of the metallurgical plants in the Ukraine lose every year over a million tons

of ore which is carried away with the furnace top gas in the form of dust. With the view to stopping this waste, the staff at the Petrovsky Metallurgical Plant worked out and introduced an original method of utilizing the furnace top dust, with the result that about 70 % of the ore dust is recovered and in this way over 12 % of the iron ore used is saved.

In the beginning of 1949, the staffs of the Kuibyshev Locomotive Works in Kolomna, and of the Zhdanov Krasnoye Sormovo Works, addressed a letter to Comrade Stalin pledging themselves to save this year 3,800 tons of metal, 5,000 tons of fuel and 4,500,000 kw-h of electric power. This patriotic proposal was widely backed by the working people.

The Bolshevik Party and the Soviet Government attach immense importance to securing discipline in plan fulfilment and cost accounting at the enterprises. In the postwar period there is stricter demand for fulfilment of plans not only as regards volume of output, but also, without fail, as regards assortment of goods. State discipline has been tightened in the matter of deliveries from cooperating plants. A number of government decisions have given the enterprises a greater material interest in the results of their work. For example, by a decision of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. of December 5, 1946, directors



of plants were empowered to establish a fund out of allowances received for fulfilling and overfulfilling the plan as regards profits and reducing cost of production. In many plants this fund amounts to hundreds of thousands of rubles. The director's fund, as it is called, is used for supplementary expenditure on building and capital repair of workers' dwellings, for paying bonuses and special allowances to workers, for maintaining crèches, kindergartens, etc. Management staffs, engineers and technicians receive bonuses strictly in accordance with the production successes achieved by the given plant. An essential condition for distributing bonuses is the fulfilment of the plan not only as regards volume of output and assortment, but also as regards reduction of cost of production.

The returns of the Central Statistical Board on the fulfilment of the 1948 state plan for the rehabilitation and further development of the national economy show, however, that while fulfilling and overfulfilling production plans for branches of industry as a whole, some Ministries do not completely carry out their plans as regards separate items of goods. Thus, in 1948, the Ministry of the Metallurgical Industry failed to carry out its plan for the production of steel cable; the Ministry of the Automobile and Tractor Industry failed to carry out its plan for the production of

passenger cars; the Ministry of the Transport Machine Industry failed to carry out its plan for the production of Diesel locomotives; the Ministry of the Machine Tool Industry failed to carry out its plan for the production of certain types of machine tools, and the Ministry of the Timber and Paper Industry failed to carry out its plan for the production of railway sleepers.

Although the plans for industry as a whole and for branches of industry are fulfilled and overfulfilled, there are still individual enterprises that lag behind, and within enterprises there are shops that fail to carry out their plan assignments. Such enterprises and shops retard the general increase of production and reduce the tempo of the country's economic development.

At the present time, when the national economy of the U.S.S.R. has risen to a new and higher stage, it is of the utmost importance that state plans should be fulfilled by all enterprises without exception for every item of goods provided for in the plans.

In the postwar five-year plan period, the quality of industrial production has considerably improved. Recently, the builders and installation workers employed at the Dnieper Power Plant noted with pride in a letter to Comrade Stalin, the high quality of a powerful hydroelectrical unit manufactured by Soviet enterprises. On De-



cember 31, 1948, this unit took its full load and the indices of its work proved to be considerably higher than those of similar units manufactured by American firms. There is a steady improvement in the quality of goods produced both by heavy and light industry. But the state and the people are demanding better and better quality every day. Improvement in quality of production has been and remains a most important task of the state as a whole.

The enormous economic effect of improving quality of production can be judged by the examples quoted at the Ninth Moscow Regional and Eighth Moscow City Joint Party Conference that the increase in the length of service of the tires produced by the Moscow Tire Factory for the "ZIS-150" and "Moskvich" cars is equal to a 50% increase in the output of these tires. The 40 watt electric bulbs now produced by the Moscow Electric Bulb Factory burn for as long as 1,000 hours, and this is equal to an increase of 30-40% in that factory's output.

It was a profound understanding of the vital importance for the Socialist State of further improving quality of production that prompted the patriotic initiative of Alexander Chutkikh, an assistant foreman at the Krasnoholm Worsted Mills, in organizing emulation for the title of "Excellent Quality Brigade." Alexander Chutkikh

expressed the striving of all Soviet patriots, unceasingly to fight for the honour of their factory's trade mark, to turn out goods only of excellent quality. This is precisely why the movement he initiated met with such an ardent response not only in factories in the light industry, but also in other branches of our national economy.

The Soviet Government showed its high appreciation of the initiative displayed by Alexander Chutkikh; for introducing new, highly productive methods of production in the textile industry which ensure the output of goods of excellent quality, and which are being extensively employed in other branches of the national economy, he was awarded a Stalin Prize.

One of the principal features characteristic of the advanced enterprises in our industry is the systematic and persevering efforts they are making to secure cost accounting. Cost accounting for every shop, section and brigade is the basis for profitable operation of the Molotov Plant in the Urals, of the Stalin Automobile Plant, the Moscow Carburettor Plant, and of other advanced enterprises.

Systematic and persevering efforts to secure cost accounting in each shop and department are being made at the Molotov Plant in the Urals. Here, not only shops, but a number of brigades and sections have been put on a cost accounting



basis. Three-fourths of the expenditure rates operating at the plant have been drawn up on a technical basis, and the rates are regularly revised as improved methods of production are introduced. Thus, in 1948, rates of expenditure of materials for certain items were reduced 6-20% below those of 1947; overhead charges are strictly regulated; thanks to improvements in the technical equipment of the plant, to the introduction of high-speed metal cutting, and to the mechanization of labour processes, the expenditure of labour on given items was in 1947 reduced on the average to 20% below that of 1946, and during the first eight months of 1948 was reduced another 23%. The Party organization at the plant unites the efforts of the whole staff to secure cost accounting and increasing profitableness, skilfully brings the methods employed by the advanced workers, brigades and shops to the knowledge of the whole staff, and renders daily assistance in the work of securing cost accounting. The results are evident. The plant fulfilled its 1948 program ahead of time and overfulfilled its reduction of cost of production assignment.

The Stalin Automobile Plant is one of the biggest machine-building plants in the country. Its annual estimates of expenditure amounts to over 1,000 million rubles. Every day, over 200 railway carloads of various materials arrive at the plant

and 222 carloads of finished goods are despatched from it. If such a huge enterprise is to be directed properly, the managers of the different shops must be free from petty interference and allowed as much independence as possible within the framework of the general plan for the plant.

The introduction of cost accounting in each shop, department and brigade proved to be a reliable and effective means of enabling the plant steadily to improve its operations. The extent to which the shop cost accounting system has justified itself may be judged from the fact that whereas in 1944, four shops were put on a cost accounting basis, at the present time all the main and auxiliary shops are working on this basis. A most important part of the organization of cost accounting is the material incentive that is given to reduce cost of production, the material responsibility borne by the managerial staff for exceeding planned cost of production, and the established technically sound rates of expenditure of labour, materials, electrical energy, etc. These rates are periodically revised in the light of the level of fulfilment achieved and of changes in the organization and methods of production. The introduction of cost accounting in every shop, department and brigade induces the staffs to seek means of shortening the production cycle and of reducing superfluous stocks of materials and semi-



manufactures, and gives the staffs of shops, departments and brigades an incentive to improve their operations. As a result of conferences of the foundry staff convened by the Party organization in 1948, hundreds of proposals were sent in by workers, and their adoption greatly improved the work of the shop. The majority of the shops that have been put on a cost accounting basis are working profitably. In 1948, the plant obtained accumulations amounting to 47,400,000 rubles in excess of the plan. In three years the plant fulfilled its five-year plan in organizing the production of new types of cars, and it considerably exceeded its prewar level of production. This wonderful success achieved by the staff of the Stalin Automobile Plant is something of which the whole of the Moscow Party organization can justly be proud.

Soviet industry contains immense reserves which, if put into use will accelerate the growth of production and the improvement of the quality of the goods produced.

The Party organizations in the industrial enterprises in every way support and encourage the initiative and innovations directed towards improving quality of work, introducing new machines, the mastering of progressive rates of output, the better utilization of equipment and the saving of raw materials, auxiliary materials and fuel.

The characteristic features the Party organizations in the advanced enterprises display in their work is ability properly to combine Party-political with production activities, to concentrate attention on unsolved problems, to teach people, to work right among them, and a precious feeling for the new.

From the very beginning the Moscow Party organization appreciated the importance for the state as a whole of the initiative displayed by Nikolai Rossiisky, Vasili Matrosov, Andrei Yakushin, Anna Kuznetsova, Alexander Chutkikh and other celebrated people working in Moscow's industry; it supported their proposals, surrounded these bold innovators with care and attention, and made their methods widely known.

The new patriotic movement that arose among the workers and engineering and technical staffs at the Moscow factories and plants for mobilizing internal reserves, for running the enterprises at a profit and for providing accumulations in excess of the plan has become nationwide.

The working people of Moscow have more than once set examples of highly organized and truly Bolshevik effort to fulfil pledges to the letter. In December 1948, they pledged their word to Comrade Stalin to carry out the five-year plan as regards volume of industrial production in three-and-a-half years. In June 1949, they gladly



informed the great leader of the Bolshevik Party, and the whole of the Soviet people, of the successes they had achieved in their struggle to fulfil the plan ahead of time. "We are happy to report to you, dear Comrade Stalin," they wrote, "that in April 1949, as regards the majority of the most important items of industrial production, Moscow industry has reached the average monthly output level planned for 1950, the last year of the five-year plan period." In the same letter to Comrade Stalin, the working people of Moscow pledged themselves to carry out their total volume of production five-year plan in four years, i.e., to reach the 1950 target of volume of production in 1949.

With unprecedented rapidity, the movement to fulfil the five-year plan in four years, headed by the Moscow Bolsheviks, spread throughout the country. The slogan "The Five-Year Plan in Four Years!" has become the fighting program of the entire Soviet people.

In 1949, Soviet industry has successfully solved new big problems. It has been a year of a further, powerful upswing of all branches of industry, primarily of the key branches of heavy industry, of accelerated capital construction, and the starting of new production capacities. Of special importance was the further improvement of the qualitative indices of the operation of

industry: increase in productivity of labour, reduction of cost of production, increased profitability of enterprises and acceleration of turnover of commodity-material values. On the instructions of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.), and of Comrade Stalin personally, the payment of state subsidies to industry and the transport system was in the main stopped. To operate without loss and at a profit is now becoming a law for all branches of industry and transport. The solution of these important problems vividly testifies to the successes socialist industry has achieved in the past years of the five-year plan period, to the fact that industry has passed into the next, higher class, and that the quality of its work has immensely improved.

It is a noteworthy fact that in the course of fulfilling the 1949 plan, new, additional reserves were discovered in industry. As a result of this, and also of the measures taken by the Government to secure better utilization of production capacities and the mobilization of internal reserves, the assignments for industrial output in the 1949 plan were enlarged. These enlarged assignments are being overfulfilled from quarter to quarter. As has been already shown above, the premises have been created for the fulfilment of the postwar five-year plan ahead of schedule.



The achievements of Soviet industry are the splendid results of the successes of nationwide socialist emulation. The workers in industry do not rest content with what has been achieved. They are continuing to fight perseveringly to make even better and fuller use of all the production reserves. This is proved by the way socialist emulation among the workers in industry to fulfil the postwar five-year plan ahead of time is growing and spreading so swiftly and assuming a richer content.



## TRANSPORT

THE RAPID postwar upswing of the U.S.S.R.'s national economy would have been impossible had not priority been given to the rehabilitation and further development of railway transport.

The U.S.S.R. is a great railway power. The development of railway transport to a large degree determines the rapidity and dimensions of expanded socialist reproduction and the military-economic might of our Motherland. The more the railways are developed, the more the branches of industry and the districts of our country are linked up by the steel threads of railways, the more extensively is the wealth of our country placed at the disposal of the people, and the more rapid is our economic and cultural progress. Under planned socialist economy, where the continuous increase in the productive forces is the most important law of social development, the development of railway transport must keep



ahead of that of the other branches of the national economy; it must prepare the conditions for the further increase of the productive forces and create the possibility for their unhindered and unlimited growth.

In capitalist society, the railways do not serve the interests of the people; they are a means of making capitalist profit, like any other capitalist enterprise. The present state of the railways in capitalist countries provides striking confirmation of V. I. Lenin's well-known thesis that capitalist monopolies artificially retard technical progress. Take, for example, the state of the British railways. They are among the oldest in the world, and yet at the present time they are in a very backward condition. Their fixed capital has scarcely been renewed for over thirty years. In their race for big profits, the British capitalist monopolies have refrained from making large capital expenditure on railway development. Technical progress in railway transport is retarded in every way. Many of the railway installations have remained unaltered and unimproved for over a hundred years. The total length of the British railways is today less than it was in 1913. According to official figures published by the British Government, 39% of the locomotives are so obsolete that their exploitation constitutes a danger to traffic and causes interruptions in trans-

portation. The same applies to freight rolling stock, which, incidentally, consists mainly of small, two-axle cars of 8 to 12 tons capacity. Freight traffic is declining year after year, and after a slight rise during the war, has now dropped again to approximately the 1913 level. The nationalization of the British transport system, about which the Labour Government made such a fuss, has not changed the situation in the least. The only ones to gain by this so-called "nationalization" were the railway owners, whose incomes, far from declining, actually increased, thanks to the compensation they received.

In contrast to Great Britain, railway traffic in the U.S.S.R. has systematically increased in the postwar period.

Fourteen years ago, Comrade Stalin, addressing the railwaymen, said: "The successes of the transport system are beyond doubt, and we don't intend to conceal them. We do not need false modesty. Our achievements are not small. From 56,000 average daily car loadings we have risen to 73,000. This is no little from the standpoint of progress in transportation. But, comrades, it is not yet enough from the standpoint of the country's requirements." The country's requirements—this, and this alone, is the criterion of the operation of the railways in our country. A most important object of long-term and annual



plans is to ensure the harmonized development of production and transportation. The Party and the Government have always devoted special attention to the needs of railway transport and have strengthened it in every way. The outstanding part the Soviet railways played in achieving victory over the enemy in the Great Patriotic War shows how wise and farsighted this policy was.

Since the termination of the war, our national economy's transportation requirements have been continuously rising. The growth of industrial and agricultural production, and the colossal construction program that is being carried out, create every year an ever-increasing demand for the transportation of immense quantities of goods.

Industry has already overstepped the prewar level. Socialist agriculture is producing crops in no way inferior to those of the best prewar years. The important changes that have taken place in industry and agriculture find concentrated reflection in the continuous increase in freight traffic.

The Law on the Five-Year Plan for the Restoration and Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. in 1946-50 states that it is necessary "*to give priority to the restoration and development of heavy industry and railway transport, without which the rapid and effective*

restoration and development of the entire national economy of the U.S.S.R. is impossible.”

In conformity with the growing requirements of the national economy, the plan provides for an increase in the freight traffic on the railway, water and automobile transport systems to 657,500 million ton-kilometres by 1950, compared with 483,000 million in 1940, an increase of 36 %.

Railway freight traffic will increase 28%—from 415,000 million ton-kilometres in 1940 to 532,000 million in 1950. The fact that the increase in the freight traffic of the transport system as a whole will outpace that of the railways is due to the more rapid increase in the amount of freight to be carried by water, and particularly by automobiles.

The water transport system will have to handle much larger quantities of mass freights like oil, coal, timber, grain, salt and cement, and thereby ease the work of the railways. The considerable increase in automobile transport will relieve the railways of short-distance and intra-junctional runs.

The postwar upswing of the Soviet national economy is inseparably connected with the successful restoration and further development of all forms of transportation and with the increase in the volume of freight traffic.



In 1946, average daily railway carloadings increased 13% over that of 1945. Important changes in the composition of the freights took place that were characteristic for the first postwar year. The proportion of industrial freights increased. Coal loadings on the railways increased 16% over those of 1945, and metal loadings increased 15%.

In 1947, there was a further increase in average daily carloadings, which exceeded those of the preceding year by 10%. Changes in the composition of the freights are indicated by a considerable increase in the proportion of most important items like coal, metals, oil, and building materials.

The figures of the increase in freight traffic in 1948 illustrate the further upswing of the national economy. In that year railway freight traffic increased 27% above that of 1947 and overstepped the prewar, 1940, level. Average daily carloadings increased 19.3% over those of 1947, and the increase for the various items was as follows: iron and steel 23%, ores 19%, coke 17%, oil 16%, coal 7%, timber 36% and cement 33%. Characteristic of 1948 is also the mass transportation of grain and other agricultural produce—the fruits of the abundant harvests of the past few years. Thus, average daily carloadings of grain increased 31% over those of 1947, and

flour 59%. The general plan for average daily carloadings in 1948 was fulfilled 104%.

The water transport system is also handling larger quantities of freights of various kinds, especially of such mass freights as timber, oil, grain, etc., thereby relieving the railways. In 1947, river freight traffic increased 23% over that of 1946, and in 1948 it increased 29% over that of 1947.

In 1948 automobile freight traffic increased 23% over that of 1947 and exceeded that of the prewar, 1940, level by almost 50%.

In 1949, there was a further considerable increase in freight traffic, indicated by a 16% increase in average daily carloadings on the railways and a 21% increase in river freight traffic compared with 1948. The growth in the volume of freight traffic is convincing evidence of the big successes achieved by the Soviet transport system, which is satisfying the requirements of the national economy to an ever-increasing degree.

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The growth of railway freight traffic in the postwar period was ensured primarily by the immense work of capital construction conducted in restoring the railway transport facilities that had been destroyed by the enemy, and in building new railways.



The volume of capital construction on the railways is increasing year after year. In 1946 it was 14 % larger than in 1945, in 1947 8 % larger than in 1946, and in 1948 11 % larger than in 1947. There was a sharp increase in completed capital construction in 1949 amounting to 32 % over that of 1948.

Capital investments went chiefly to restore the wrecked tracks on the Donbas and Krivoi Rog lines, and the lines which connect Moscow with the Donbas, the Caucasus and Leningrad, and to develop the railways in the Urals and Siberia.

In the first two years of the postwar five-year period, nearly 2,000 million rubles were invested in the restoration of the Donbas railways. The traffic capacity of the decisive lines has been increased. The lines connecting the trunk lines with the coal districts have been restored. Considerable work has been done in restoring and enlarging factory sidings and branch lines to industrial plants.

Of great economic importance is the capital construction work conducted in restoring the trunk lines that connect Moscow with the Donbas, the Caucasus and Leningrad.

All this work of restoration bears the same distinguishing features as those of industry. Here too, the process of restoration is closely interwoven with thorough technical reconstruction and

with the expansion of the capacity of the railways beyond their prewar level. On a number of lines which had single tracks before the war, second tracks have been laid. On the restored main lines, as well as on the newly built ones, the most up-to-date signalling, blocking and communication techniques are being extensively installed. Semaphors are being replaced by the automatic block system. Trunk line telegraph and telephone communication is being expanded. The technique of despatcher communication is being improved.

Special mention must be made of the successes achieved in Soviet bridgebuilding. Soviet bridgebuilders covered themselves with glory during the war when, with extraordinary speed, they restored bridges and crossings under difficult wartime conditions. When the war terminated, work was organized on the capital restoration of artificial structures, one of the most complicated and laborious tasks in railway restoration work. Thanks to the high technical level of Soviet bridgebuilding, and to the skilful application of the experience gained during the war, Soviet bridgebuilders, during the first half of the five-year period, performed immense work in the capital restoration of the largest bridges.

The principal railway construction and the laying of second tracks are concentrated in the



eastern regions of the U.S.S.R. During the Great Patriotic War, hundreds of large industrial enterprises were transferred to these regions from the southern and western regions. Numerous new enterprises were erected. The capacity of already existing enterprises grew. But in spite of the considerable work done to increase the capacity of the railways in the Urals and Siberia that had been conducted during the war, the state of the railways in these regions, particularly in the Urals, lagged far behind the requirements of industry. The new Five-Year Plan Law set railwaymen the task of "ensuring the industries of the Urals and Siberia full and uninterrupted transport facilities." This task is being successfully carried out.

In the postwar period, extensive work is proceeding in the electrification of the railways. As is known, electrical traction increases the traffic capacity of railways 50 to 200% compared with steam traction. The exceptional importance of electrifying the railways lies in that electric traction ensures regular operation under severe winter conditions. Already during the war, a number of railway sections in the Urals and other parts of the country were electrified. At the present time the electrification of new sections is proceeding on stretches totalling several thousands of kilometres.

An extremely important source for increasing railway traffic is the reduction of car turnover time. On the railways, this index has the same significance as the reduction of the duration of the production cycle in industry. The shorter the time of car turnover, the better is the use made of existing capacity and of internal reserves for increasing traffic. The Five-Year Plan Law provides that by 1950 average car turnover time be reduced to 7 days as against 10.9 days in 1945.

During the first two years of the postwar five-year plan period, average car turnover time was reduced by 32 hours. In 1948 it was further reduced by over 22 hours as a result of shortening the stoppages at stations and increasing running speed. In the same year, a number of lines already reached the prewar standard of car turnover time, and some even reduced it below that level. Nevertheless, the railways still have considerable unused reserves for speeding up car turnover. This is evident from the fact that in 1948, the average car turnover time was above the established standard.

The acceleration of car turnover depends upon the work of all the links in railway transportation. One of the conditions for it is the elimination of excessively long and inexpedient journeys.

The importance for railway transportation of reducing length of journeys may be judged from



the following calculation. The reduction of the transportation of all freights by an average of one kilometre in the course of one year—taking the freight and operation indices of 1947—will release about 1,000 cars, save over 20,000 tons of fuel (in conventional units) and save transportation costs to the amount of about 9,000,000 rubles.

Wartime requirements made it necessary in a number of cases to make roundabout journeys, to put up with cars returning empty, and to make long journeys when the situation and military operations demanded it. The termination of the war and the reconversion of the railways to peacetime requirements opened wide possibilities for reducing length of journeys and improving the utilization of rolling stock.

The 1946 plan provided for an average reduction of length of journeys by 27 kilometres, but actually the average reduction amounted to 51 kilometres. In 1947 the reduction of length of journeys continued, and already in the first half of that year the average was lower than that in the first half of 1940.

These progressive changes in the operation of the railways are the result of the new geographical distribution of industry brought about by the rapid economic rehabilitation of the regions temporarily occupied by the enemy and of the starting of new production capacities in other regions

of the country. Of great importance for the elimination of superfluously long journeys is the intensive development of local industry.

Here is one of numerous examples that could be quoted. Already in the first half of 1947, trainloads of coal were carried on the average 675 kilometres, whereas in 1940 the average journey was 694 kilometres. This reduction is to be accounted for primarily by the changes in the geographical distribution of coal mining that have taken place in the past few years. The Moscow Coal Basin, now restored, is producing much more coal than before the war. There has been an increase in the demand for Chelyabinsk and Bogoslov coal. In 1947, the Soviet Government established zones for the distribution of the coal from the various coal fields; this will help to cut the average length of journeys of coal freights still further.

Of first-class importance for reducing car turnover time is the technical improvement and better utilization of rolling stock.

During the first three years of the postwar five-year plan period, industry supplied the railways with numerous locomotives and tens of thousands of cars. The new rolling stock is distinguished for its high running qualities and large capacity. Deserved popularity has been won on the railways by the new type of locomotive designed by Stalin Prize winner Lebedyansky. New



electric locomotives haul on level tracks trains weighing 8,000 tons, and on exceptionally steep inclines they do the work of 3-4 steam locomotives. The railway car industry has begun to turn out freight cars of high durability and capacity. At the Kharkov Works, controlled by the Ministry of the Transport Machinery Industry a new Diesel locomotive of 2,000 hp has been designed and built. The railways are equipped with the most up-to-date technical installations designed by Soviet engineers. Comrade Tantsura, an engineer, has designed an autostop which automatically stops a train if it passes a closed signal post. In 1948, autostops were already installed on 1,566 kilometres of railway. At 120 large railway stations radio communication is maintained between shunting engine drivers and station despatchers. Radio communication between despatchers and engines on the line is being tested.

Of extreme importance is the reduction of the time cars are detained on factory sidings during loading and unloading. During the war, many new enterprises were built and the old ones increased their output capacities severalfold. Owing to wartime conditions, the railway sidings at these plants were not always enlarged. In the postwar period considerable attention is being paid to the improvement of the transport departments of industrial enterprises, and especially to

the mechanization of loading and unloading operations. Nevertheless, the detention of cars waiting to be loaded, during loading operations and while waiting to be despatched is still great. This is the chief reason why the plan for accelerating car turnover is not being fulfilled. The experience of the advanced industrial enterprises convincingly shows how important the mechanization of loading and unloading operations is for lessening the detention of cars. At the Stalin Automobile Plant in Moscow, 90 % of the loading and unloading operations has been mechanized. Thanks to this, in January 1949, the plant reduced average car detention time by over six hours compared with last year. Car detention at the Magnitogorsk Metallurgical Plant is below the established standard. To accelerate car turnover by reducing the time cars are detained during loading and unloading is the common task of both the transport workers and the workers in industry.

The postwar achievements of the Soviet railways are the direct result of the upswing of socialist emulation and of the growth of the Stakhanov movement among railwaymen. The attention which the Party and the Government devote to the railwaymen serves immensely to stimulate this upswing.

Thus, in January 1947, on Comrade Stalin's initiative, the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.



adopted a decision to train locomotive crews and to improve the organization of their work and their material conditions of life. Nearly all locomotive crews now work on the three shift system. They get progressive long service bonuses and higher pensions. In 1947 alone, four thousand cottages were built for locomotive drivers. Decorations and medals are awarded for long, faultless and continuous service.

Locomotive drivers are the leading detachment of the railwaymen. The history of the Stakhanov movement preserves in the list of initiators of this movement the names of Krivonos, Lunin, Papavin and other locomotive drivers. Locomotive drivers were among the first on the railways to enter into socialist emulation to fulfil the postwar five-year plan ahead of time. In response to the above-mentioned government decision, socialist emulation flared up with fresh vigour.

Comrade Yushko, a locomotive driver at the Bogotol depot on the Krasnoyarsk railway, the initiator of emulation to achieve the planned five-year total running distance for each engine in four years, achieved the first three years' distance in two-and-a-half years. Comrade Papavin, Hero of Socialist Labour, who has been on the footplate for twenty years, ran his locomotive 1,200,000 kilometres without capital repairs. Thousands of locomotive drivers are following

these examples and are themselves setting examples in the skilful handling of the trains entrusted to them and in getting the utmost use out of their engines.

In 1948, an extensive movement arose among locomotive drivers to haul heavy trains, and in that year the drivers of heavy trains hauled over 100,000,000 tons of freight over and above the standard. The saving resulting from exceeding the average weight of trains amounted to 200,000,000 rubles. This method of the initiators of that splendid movement, locomotive drivers Comrades Agafonov, Blinov and Utyumov of the South Urals railway, Comrade Gulyuk of the Tomsk railway, Comrades Bryukhovetsky and Vorobyov of the North Donetsk railway, and many others, is being widely practised on all lines.

Stakhanovite drivers, advanced despatchers and train assemblers, the best repair workers and freight service operators, each in his own line, are concentrating their energy and initiative, technical ingenuity and knowledge, on the fulfilment of the main task—fully to satisfy the country's transportation needs. The locomotive repairers at the Timoshev depot decided to repair in the local repair shop locomotives that had been wrecked during the war. Hundreds of other repair shop staffs set to work to repair wrecked locomotives, passenger cars, machine tools and



coal hoists. As a result of the movement started by the Timoshev workers, over 2,000 locomotives and many thousands of cars were put on the railways after undergoing capital repairs.

Of exceptional importance is the initiative displayed by the locomotive drivers of the Kurgan section. What they proposed amounts to this. As is known, it is difficult to assemble trains quickly and to develop high running speed in wintertime. As a consequence, railway traffic workers, as a rule, work to an easier schedule in the winter. The Kurgan locomotive drivers, however, requested that they be allowed to keep to the summer schedule. This example was followed by numerous railwaymen on other lines. This movement to maintain summer schedules in the winter promises to make an important contribution to the further improvement of railway transport.

What is known as complex emulation, i.e., emulation between workers in different branches of industry, has become widespread. Thus, railwaymen compete with miners and steel workers—their work is interlocked in the single technological process of work carried on at railway stations and sidings at mines and steel plants. The aim is to accelerate car turnover, and this is brilliantly achieved by means of this form of emulation. By their joint efforts, the railwaymen and industrial workers mobilize immense reserves

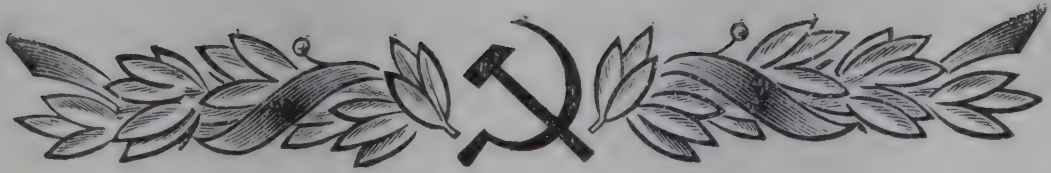
for accelerating car turnover—they save time in loading and unloading, assembling trains, technical inspection and repairs, in the necessary clerical work and even in the taking over of trains by crews.

Railwaymen occupy an honourable place in nationwide emulation for securing additional extra-plan accumulations for the national economy. In 1948, transportation costs were reduced 9.1% compared with those in 1947, i.e., lower than was provided for in the plan, and it resulted in an additional saving of over 900,000,000 rubles.

In a letter to Comrade Stalin, the railwaymen pledged themselves to reach in the third quarter of 1949 the level of average daily carloadings planned for 1950. They kept their pledge and for certain categories of freights even exceeded the figure planned for 1950. Together with the whole of the Soviet people, Soviet railwaymen are making energetic and determined efforts to fulfil the postwar five-year plan ahead of time.

The powerful upswing of the national economy in 1949 has set the railwaymen new and even more responsible tasks, and they are exerting all efforts to make the railways of the great Soviet State satisfy all the country's growing requirements.





## AGRICULTURE

IN HIS ADDRESS on the thirty-first anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, Comrade Molotov stated that agriculture, like industry, had entered a period of a new and powerful upswing.

The rehabilitation and further development of agriculture is one of the most difficult and complicated tasks that confronted the Party and the Soviet State on the termination of the war. The war could not but affect the state of agriculture. The crop area, crop yield, the number of cattle and their yield, and the number of tractors and agricultural machines all declined.

In the enemy-occupied regions, agriculture was ruined. To give an idea of the destruction caused by the German fascist occupation, it is sufficient, for example, to mention that in these regions the Germans wrecked or seized 137,000 tractors—several times more than there were in the whole of Germany before the war; they killed

or drove into Germany 7,000,000 horses—more than the number of horses in prewar Germany and France put together. It seemed as though it would take many years to raise agriculture out of the ruin to which it had been reduced by the war, after the enormous damage inflicted upon it by the temporary German occupation.

An extensive program for the postwar rehabilitation and further development of agriculture was provided by the Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. for 1946-50, and by the decisions of the February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B). The chief aim of the postwar development of agriculture was to raise to the utmost the yield per hectare and the total crop of agricultural produce. The enormous importance that is attached to the task of increasing yield is evident from the following: according to the plan, by the end of 1950, the area under grain crops must be increased 24 % above that of 1945, but the yield per hectare must be increased 54 %; the cotton area must be increased 40 % and the yield must be increased 79 %; the area under sugar beets must be increased 63 % and the yield 79 %; the area under sunflowers must be increased 28 % and the yield 59 %. The greater part of the increase in the total crop of agricultural produce in the postwar five-



year plan period is to be obtained from the increase in the yield of these crops. The task of increasing yield has been and remains the central task in the domain of developing agriculture.

“...We are fully aware that our principal task in agriculture is to achieve a further increase in the yield of grain and also of other crops.”  
(V. M. Molotov.)

The successes achieved in the postwar period in carrying out this most important task in other branches of agriculture too, provide further evidence of the advantages of the kolkhoz system, and of the great importance of the Bolshevik Party's organizing and directing activities.

Agriculture entered the postwar five-year plan period under the unfavourable conditions of the severe drought of 1946. Nevertheless, although the drought area in that year was larger than that of 1921, the total grain crop and the market supply of grain were higher than in 1921. This was the direct result of the advantages of the socialist organization of production, of the kolkhoz system that was built up during the prewar Stalin five-year plan periods. It must be stated that in the regions not affected by the drought the agricultural crop increased, and in Western Siberia and Kazakhstan the grain crop was 50% larger than that of 1945. Marked success has been

achieved in the postwar development of cotton growing in the country.

The effect of the Bolshevik Party's great organizing power and of the advantages of the kolkhoz system is seen in the important successes that were achieved in socialist agriculture in the U.S.S.R. in the very next year, viz., 1947. Under the conditions of capitalist agriculture, drought leads to a reduction of the crop area and of yield per hectare for a number of subsequent years. The development of agriculture is retarded for many years. In pre-revolutionary Russia, for example, the crop area in the central chernozem provinces diminished in 1892 following the drought of 1891, and the crop amounted to only half the average crop of the period 1883-1900. After the drought of 1946, which affected the same central chernozem regions no less severely than that of 1891, the crop area in these regions increased 18% in the following year, and the crop exceeded the prewar level.

1947 marked the turning point in all branches of agriculture. The area of all crops increased in all regions of the country. The yield per hectare of the principal crops increased. In one year, the total produce of agriculture and livestock farming increased 32%; the total produce of agriculture increased 48%. Still more instructive is the increase in the gross harvest of grain and



industrial crops. The grain crop in 1947 was 58% above that of 1946, the cotton crop 21%, potatoes 30%, sugar beets 190%, sunflowers 79%, flax 29% and hemp 78%. In that one year, the production of sugar beets increased nearly threefold, grain more than 50% and sunflowers almost twofold. In what other country is such an intensive growth of agricultural production possible?

1947 is also noteworthy for the fact that the grain crop yield per hectare reached the prewar level. It is difficult to overestimate the importance of this victory of socialist agriculture. The advantages of the kolkhoz system are also strikingly demonstrated by the fact that two years after the termination of the war, and a year after an exceptionally severe drought, the prewar yield was reached in the U.S.S.R. In 1947, the state received approximately as much bread grain as it did in the best prewar years.

Considerable successes were also achieved in livestock farming in 1947. In 32 regions, territories and republics, the number of large cattle exceeded the prewar level. This was the case also with the number of sheep and goats in kolkhozes in the U.S.S.R. as a whole. The increase in the number and yield of livestock produce is obtained by the utmost development of public livestock farming. The decision adopted by the February

1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B) concerning the organization of dairy farms in all kolkhozes is being successfully carried out. Thus, in Kazakhstan, in the first two postwar years—1946 and 1947—the number of cattle in kolkhozes increased by over 3,000,000. In 1947 alone, the number of publicly owned cattle increased by 2,300,000. This increase was the result of own breeding on the farms, and the rate of increase was the highest during the past ten years.

1948 witnessed even greater success in socialist agriculture.

An immense success achieved by agriculture in the U.S.S.R. in 1948 was that the total grain crop amounted to over 7,000 million poods, only a little under that of the prewar year, 1940, and that the average yield per hectare exceeded the prewar level. After World War I, Germany reached the prewar grain crop level in 16 years and France in 11 years after the termination of the war, although the damage inflicted on agriculture in those countries by that war can in no way be compared with that caused by the fascist invaders in the U.S.S.R.

The crop area in the U.S.S.R. has not yet reached the prewar level. The severe loss of tractors and agricultural machines due to enemy occupation has not yet been made good. "All the



greater is the significance of the fact that, thanks to more efficient use of available machines, and to considerable improvement in the organization of the labour of the collective farmers, the grain yield this year exceeded that of the prewar year 1940.”\*

The increase in the grain yield in 1948 is all the more remarkable for the reason that the weather conditions in that year cannot be regarded as having been favourable—drought affected a large area of the Volga region.

The increase in the crop area in 1948 amounted to 13,800,000 hectares; for 1947 and 1948 the increase amounted to 20,000,000 hectares. We will remind the reader that the entire crop area in France before the war was a little over 20,000,000 hectares. Thus, the increase alone in the U.S.S.R. in 1947 and 1948 was equal to the entire crop area of one of the biggest countries in Europe. In the U.S.S.R. there is an exceptionally rapid expansion of the area under the most valuable food and industrial crops.

The February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) uttered a special warning against allowing the production of spring wheat to lag behind, and against allowing it to

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\* V. M. Molotov, *XXXI Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution*, Moscow 1948, p. 8.

be squeezed out by less valuable fodder crops, barley in particular. The Plenum called for the expansion of the production of spring wheat in the southern regions of the country and for an increase of the production of rye in the northern regions. In 1948, the increase in the wheat area in kolkhozes and sovkhoses over that of 1947 amounted to 9,200,000 hectares; of this increase, spring wheat accounted for 5,500,000 hectares. The area of all grain crops amounted to 10,000,000 hectares. The industrial crops area increased by 1,000,000 hectares. The area under potatoes and fodder crops also increased. The increase in the crop area in 1949 over that of 1948 amounted to 6,000,000 hectares, i.e., more than the total crop area of England. The area of the most valuable grain crop—spring wheat—increased 1,600,000 hectares.

The powerful upswing of agriculture in the U.S.S.R. was reflected in the successful progress of grain deliveries in 1948. Socialist emulation between republics, territories and regions for fulfilling the grain deliveries plan ahead of time, for fulfilling and overfulfilling obligations to the state, grew into a nationwide demonstration of the devotion of the kolkhoz peasants to the Soviet Government, to the Bolshevik Party, and to great Stalin.

The kolkhozniks in the overwhelming major-



ity of regions, territories and republics fulfilled their obligations to the state a long way ahead of time.

In 1948, the state received much more grain than in 1947. Suffice it to say that the Ukraine alone delivered 131,000,000 poods, North Caucasus 77,000,000 poods and Siberia 40,000,000 poods more than in 1947.

Many regions and republics delivered to the state more grain than they had done before the war. The Ukrainian grain growers, for example, delivered nearly 75,000,000 poods more grain than they delivered in the prewar year, 1940.

The results of the grain deliveries in 1948 were summed up by Comrade Molotov in his address on the thirty-first anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution in the following words: "Not only is the current supply of breadstuffs to the population now fully ensured, but necessary government stocks have been built up for the future."

One of the characteristic features of 1948 is the simultaneous rapid upswing of all branches of agriculture and livestock farming, particularly of agriculture. The production of sugar beets, flax, cotton, oil-bearing crops, potatoes and vegetables has increased.

In 1948, the kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the

Ukrainian S.S.R. delivered 19,300,000 centners of sugar beets more than they delivered in 1947, and this enabled the production of sugar to be increased 30 %.

The chief flax-growing regions of the U.S.S.R. fulfilled their flax contract plans far ahead of schedule. For example, the kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the Kalinin Region not only fulfilled their contracts ahead of time, but delivered to the state a larger quantity of flax than they delivered in 1940, delivered 27 kilograms more per hectare than in 1940, and the quality of the flax delivered was considerably higher than in 1947.

The Novgorod, Smolensk, Pskov and many other flax-growing regions fulfilled their contracts plan.

In the Uzbek S.S.R. the area under cotton and the cotton deliveries in 1948 exceeded the prewar level. It must be observed, however, that the kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Uzbekistan have not utilized all their cotton-growing possibilities. The most important task of the kolkhozniks in Uzbekistan is rapidly to develop cotton growing further on a scale sufficient to satisfy the country's requirements.

Big successes in cotton growing have been achieved in the Tajik S.S.R. Here, the average yield per hectare has reached the level planned for 1950, and the deliveries averaged 1.4 centners



per hectare more than in 1941, when a record yield was reached.

The sovkhoses, kolkhoses and kolkhozniks of the Ukrainian S.S.R. delivered sunflower seeds to the state to the amount of 6,600,000 poods in excess of the quantity delivered in 1947. Many regions delivered far larger quantities of vegetables and potatoes than before the war. The kolkhoses and sovkhoses in the Moscow Region delivered 4,000,000 poods of vegetables more than in 1940.

In 1949 socialist agriculture achieved new big victories. The gross grain crop this year was larger than in 1948 and exceeded that of the prewar year, 1940. The grain problem in our country is now solved and further success in this sphere stands on a firm foundation. The prewar level was also exceeded with other crops—cotton, flax, hemp and sunflower seeds. The sugar beet crop was considerably bigger than that of last year. Owing to the growth of agricultural production there is an increase in the volume of agricultural produce deliveries. In 1949, the kolkhoses and sovkhoses delivered to the state more grain than in 1948, and considerably larger quantities of oil seed, sugar beets and other produce. To illustrate what significance this has for increasing production and for creating an abundance of consumers' goods in Soviet Land, a single example may

be quoted: the increase in the production of sugar beets in the Ukraine made it possible by November 1, 1949, to manufacture 15,800,000 poods of sugar more than had been manufactured by that date last year.

A considerable amount of work has been done in the postwar period to rehabilitate public livestock farming in the kolkhozes.

From January 1, 1948 to January 1, 1949, the number of kolkhoz large cattle increased 23 %, pigs 75 %, sheep and goats 16 % and horses 15 %. There was also an increase in the number of cattle individually held by the kolkhozniks. The increase in the number of cattle in 1948 was considerably more rapid than in prewar years. Indicative of the successes achieved in livestock farming is the increase in the output of livestock produce. In 1948, the kolkhozes, kolkhozniks and the sovkhoses in the Ukraine fulfilled their butter production plans ahead of time, produced 1,033,000 poods of butter more than in the prewar year, 1940, and exceeded the level of butter production planned for the Ukrainian S.S.R. for 1950. The kolkhozes, kolkhozniks and sovkhoses in the Kazakh S.S.R. delivered to the state 52,000 centners of wool and 532,000 centners of meat more than in 1940.

For all that, livestock farming is lagging behind the other branches of agriculture. Now that



the grain production problem has been solved, the central task that confronts the Party and the state in the sphere of agriculture is in every way to develop public livestock farming in the U.S.S.R. This will be promoted by the "Three-Year Plan for the Development of Public Kolkhoz and Sovkhoz Productive Livestock Farming (1949-51)" that was adopted by the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.). This plan provides for an increase in livestock farming that will result in 1951 to an increase in the output of meat, fat back, butter, eggs, milk and other produce to be supplied to the population by one-half over that of 1948. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes have already achieved considerable success in carrying out the livestock farming development plan. During 1949 the number of large horned cattle in kolkhozes increased 21 %, pigs 78 %, sheep and goats 19 % and poultry 100 %.

Big successes have been achieved by the sovkhozes. The total grain crop area of the state farms controlled by the Ministry for Sovkhozes increased in 1948 by 24 %, and of wheat in particular, 54 %. The grain crops yield per hectare is now higher than before the war, and more grain from each harvested hectare was delivered to the state than in the prewar year, 1940. Indicative of the successes achieved are the examples

of the best sovkhoses. The Gigant Sovkhoz, after introducing the travopolye system of crop rotation and proper soil cultivation, gets high, stable crops year after year. In 1948, it obtained, on an area of 20,000 hectares, an average crop of 18.9 centners per hectare, and the winter wheat crop on the fields protected by tree belts reached over 27 centners per hectare. In that year the sovkhos delivered to the state about 2,000,000 poods of grain (158% of its plan).

Another advanced sovkhos, the Kuban, successfully employing advanced agricultural techniques, harvested in 1948, 20.9 centners of grain from each hectare.

The sovkhoses have also achieved big successes in livestock farming. In 1948, the number of large cattle in sovkhoses increased nearly 19%, the number of pigs increased 60% and poultry 40%. The sovkhoses have achieved marked successes in the yields of milk, meat and wool.

In 1948, the sovkhoses controlled by the Ministry of Sovkhoses delivered to the state 40,000,000 poods of grain more than in 1947, and they overfulfilled their milk and meat deliveries plans.

The ground for the upswing of agriculture was prepared by the immense organizational work conducted by the Party, which rallied the kolkhozniks and the workers at MTS (machine



and tractor stations) and sovkhoses for the struggle to surmount the difficulties connected with the rehabilitation of agriculture and to achieve a rapid upswing in all its branches.

The organizing role the Party played in securing the upswing of agriculture was reflected in the reinforcement of the material and technical base of agriculture and in the strengthening of the machine and tractor stations—the bases for the state guidance of agriculture—in the wide application of the requirements of advanced agrobiological science to socialist agriculture; in the further economic and organizational strengthening of the agricultural artels and in the communist education of the kolkhozniks; in the wide expansion of socialist emulation and in the improvement of organizing and political activities in the rural districts.

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During the prewar Stalin five-year plan periods, the technical reconstruction of agriculture was carried out. At the Eighteenth Congress of the C.P.S.U.(B.), Comrade Stalin said that agriculture in the U.S.S.R. is not only run on a larger scale, and is more mechanized than that in any other country in the world, but is also more fully equipped with up-to-date machinery. In 1940, socialist agriculture had at its command

530,000 tractors and 182,000 harvester combines. A large part of the tractors consisted of caterpillar tractors, the most productive and efficient. In 1938, the number of caterpillar tractors amounted to 77,000. Before the war, cultivator tractors were used on an extensive scale and facilitated the mechanization of the planting and cultivation of industrial crops. The number of other kinds of agricultural machinery increased manyfold. Agriculture received many hundreds of thousands of tractor ploughs, tractor seed drills, many complex threshing machines, and machines for harvesting industrial crops. The complete reconstruction of backward agriculture in the exceptionally short period of 13 years was one of the greatest achievements of the Soviet system.

On the termination of the Great Patriotic War socialist industry was faced with the task of making good the damage inflicted on agriculture during the war, and of equipping agriculture with new, up-to-date machines. This task was already begun while the war was still in progress, when, for example, the construction of new tractor works was started. When the war ended, these plants were already in operation. The restoration of the Stalingrad and Kharkov tractor works was started during the war, and both plants commenced operations within a short space of time. They are now turning out more tractors than



they did before the war. After the war, the Urals Tractor Works resumed the production of tractors, and the erection of another tractor plant was completed. The gigantic agricultural machinery plant, Rostselmash, has been fully restored. Many plants for the production of different kinds of agricultural machinery are being restored or newly built. The restoration and development of agricultural machine building resulted in a tremendous increase in the output of tractors, harvester combines and other kinds of agricultural machines. The number of tractors turned out in 1947 was three-and-a-half times the number turned out in 1945, and in 1948 it was more than twice that of 1947. The number of agricultural machines produced in 1947 was more than double the number produced in 1946, and that of 1948 was double the number turned out in 1947. The output of harvester combines in 1948 was 500.1 % of the 1947 output.

In 1948, agriculture received three times as many tractors, twice as many motor trucks and twice as many agricultural machines as it received in the prewar year, 1940. In 1949 the supply of machines was still further increased. This year agriculture receives 150,000 tractors calculated in terms of 15 hp tractors, 29,000 harvester combines, 1,600,000 trailer implements and other agricultural machines. In other words, agri-

culture will receive three to four times more tractors and agricultural machines than in the prewar year, 1940.

In the postwar period, industry is equipping agriculture with new, improved types of tractors, harvester combines and other agricultural machines. The powerful caterpillar Diesel tractor "S-80" is now being extensively employed. New types of harvester combines have been built and are now working in the kolkhoz fields. The "Stalinets-6" combine is a perfect harvesting machine, adapted to the harvesting of big grain crops. The threshing drum of this machine is 25% more effective than that of the "Kommunar." It is equipped with a rake for collecting straw, chaff and weeds. This enables harvesting to be conducted on a higher agrotechnical level. The self-propelled "S-4" combine is more productive, can cover rougher ground and is more manageable than the tractor drawn combine.

The Soviet machine-building industry is supplying agriculture with a number of combines for harvesting industrial crops. The construction of combines of such types is a big event in the development of agriculture. It is well known that the cultivation and harvesting of industrial and cultivated crops is a laborious task, but hitherto it has been impossible to mechanize these operations. The production of specialized combines



which enable hand labour to be replaced by machines opens new prospects for the development of these crops. In 1948 the "SPG-1" sugar beet harvester was working in the fields of our country; it reduces the work of harvesting sugar beets to between one-fifth and one-sixth compared with existing mechanized methods. A flax combine harvester is now in use, which simultaneously pulls, threshes and binds the flax. The "HVSN-2" cotton harvester mechanizes the very laborious task of cotton picking. The first consignment of "KOK-2's," machines for harvesting potatoes, has been turned out.

The production of mineral fertilizers is growing steadily. In 1947, the amount produced was twice that of 1945, and the amount produced in 1948 was nearly 50% above that of 1947. In 1949, agriculture is receiving 18.3% more mineral fertilizer than in 1948, and 33% more than in the prewar year, 1940.

In the postwar period electricity has been widely introduced in kolkhozes, sovkhoses and MTS. The scale on which rural electric power stations are now being built far exceeds the prewar level. In 1940, the total capacity of all existing rural electric power stations amounted to 275,000 kw.; at the beginning of 1948 it was twice as much—525,700 kw. During the first nine months of 1948, 1,853 rural power stations of a

total capacity of about 100,000 kw. were put into operation. In a number of regions, and in many scores of rural districts, electricity has been introduced in all the villages. The Sverdlovsk Region was the first in the U.S.S.R. to complete the introduction of electricity in all the villages in the region. This was in 1947. Electricity is supplied to 2,108 kolkhozes, 84 MTS and sovkhoses, 140,000 kolkhoznik homes, 2,000 village schools, 600 hospitals and medical centres, about a thousand village recreation clubs and reading rooms, 9,000 livestock farms, etc. Electricity is being extensively employed in farming operations, such as threshing and flour milling, and in livestock farming. In the Moscow Region electricity has been introduced in 65 % of the kolkhozes, in 110 sovkhoses and in all machine and tractor stations. Electricity is being widely introduced in the kolkhozes in the Chelyabinsk, Molotov, Gorky and a number of other regions.

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The leading role in the postwar rehabilitation and further development of agriculture is being played by the machine and tractor stations.

Set up on Comrade Stalin's instructions, these stations served as the principal levers for the socialist reconstruction of the countryside during the period of collectivization. They extensively



introduced machines in agriculture and demonstrated the advantages of collective labour based on advanced technology.

"...The MTS served to reveal and test by mass experience the form in which the Soviet State should organize large-scale collective agriculture on a high technical basis, in which the independent activity of the kolkhoz masses in building their collective farms is most fully combined with the organizational and technical assistance and guidance of the proletarian state."\*

In the prewar Stalin five-year plan periods, all the rural districts of the country were covered with a close network of machine and tractor stations which rendered the kolkhoz peasants enormous assistance. Suffice it to recall that in 1940, three-fourths of the ploughing and half the sowing in the kolkhoz fields was performed with the aid of tractors, and 50% of the grain crop was harvested with combines.

After the war, the machine and tractor stations were expected to serve, and are serving, as the principal lever for the rehabilitation and further development of agriculture in the U.S.S.R.

The major part of the traction resources of agriculture is concentrated in the MTS. At the

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\* Decision of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. (B.) of December 29, 1930, *Pravda*, December 30, 1930.

February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.), Comrade Andreyev stated that the animal traction power of the kolkhozes and the tractors of the MTS amounted to a total of 10,200,000 hp (not counting combine harvesters and motor trucks). Of this total, the MTS tractors accounted for 6,000,000 hp, or 58%. In the following years the proportion of MTS traction power increased. This means that the MTS are performing by far the greater part of the ploughing and a considerable part of the other field work of the kolkhozes. Thus, the MTS are largely the determining factor in the successful struggle to expand the crop area and to increase yield; and their importance as such a factor grows with the growth in the number of tractors and agricultural machines at their disposal.

After the war it was necessary to restore and enlarge the network of MTS, particularly in the regions which had been in enemy occupation. Of the 7,069 MTS in existence in 1940, the Germans wrecked about 3,000. The restoration of these began when the war was still in progress. At the present time all the MTS in the formerly occupied regions have been restored. New ones have been organized in Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Moldavia and other regions where the peasantry are only just taking the path of collectivization. The number of MTS has increased in other regions



too. At the present time, over 7,800 MTS are functioning. Thus, the number today is larger than before the war.

As we have already stated, the principal task in the field of agriculture in the postwar five-year plan period is to increase yield per hectare. In conformity with this, the February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) laid it down that "...the chief function of the machine and tractor stations is to increase the yield per hectare at the kolkhozes which they serve...." To achieve this, the MTS must make better use of their machines and tractors, improve the quality of tractor and harvesting work, perform these operations within the agrotechnical schedules, and harvest the crops in proper time.

The Party and the Government took measures radically to improve the work of the MTS. The February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) imposed the duty on the Ministry for Agriculture, and on Party and Soviet bodies and MTS managers, of eliminating serious defects in the work of a number of MTS, such as low output per tractor and combine, low quality of tractor work, violation of agrotechnical rules, breach of contract with kolkhozes, bad and belated repair of machines and absence of responsibility of tractor brigades for their work. The Plenum resolved to change the method of ap-

praising the work of the MTS. Before 1947, the method was to appraise their work according to fulfilment of tractor work plans in terms of soft ploughing. The result was that some MTS strove to fulfil their plans on account of harrowing and other light work. The appraisal of the work of the MTS was not directly dependent upon fulfilment of the plan for increasing yield per hectare at the kolkhozes. The February 1947 Plenum laid it down that the production plans of the MTS can be regarded as fulfilled only if they fulfil the tractor work plan for the principal operations—spring ploughing, cultivating before sowing, spring sowing, raising and working over summer fallow, harvesting, winter sowing and ploughing winter fallow—within the schedule, and if they fulfil their produce payment deliveries plans. It must be added that the rates and the amount of payment in produce that the MTS receive for their services depend upon the degree to which they carry out their operations in proper time and upon the crop yield. Thus, the work of the MTS is appraised by concrete results—increase in the yield per hectare at the kolkhozes they serve.

The pay system for MTS employees has also been changed. Under the new system, leading workers and specialists at MTS receive bonuses only if the respective station performs the chief



tractor operations within schedule and fulfil or overfulfil the produce payment plan. If the MTS fails to carry out the cost of operations plan, the bonuses are reduced. The tractor drivers' pay depends on the fulfilment of the tractor operations plan and on the yield per hectare at the kolkhozes they serve. Thus, the pay of all MTS employees is made dependent upon the increase in the yield at kolkhozes. The decisions of the February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) were an important factor in improving the work of the MTS and in raising the yield at kolkhozes.

The further improvement in the work of the MTS, the increase in yield, and the economic and organizational strengthening of the kolkhozes are also promoted by the new model contract between MTS and kolkhozes sanctioned by the Government in January 1948. This contract obliges the MTS "to render constant assistance in the economic and organizational strengthening of the kolkhoz by its agronomical service, by introducing the achievements of agricultural science, and by helping the kolkhozes properly organize their work, draw up production plans and estimates of income and expenditure, introduce correct crop rotation, distribute income, train kolkhoz staffs and organize the keeping of accounts." On the other hand, the contract obliges the kolkhoz to

take measures to increase the yield, such as: keeping to all the rules of agronomics, increasing productivity of labour and maintaining labour discipline. Thus, the new model contract enables the MTS to exercise more influence upon the kolkhozes and thereby enhances and strengthens its leading role. At the same time, it increases the responsibility of the MTS for carrying out its operations within the fixed schedules and on a high level of quality. In particular, the contract contains a clause to the effect that bad work by the MTS must immediately be done over again, and the extra expenditure of fuel entailed thereby must be put against the account of the tractor driver concerned. The contract enables the kolkhoz to control the work of the MTS; it places this work under public control and thereby helps to improve its quality.

The Government has considerably strengthened the technical base of the MTS. In addition to first-class tractors, harvester combines and other agricultural machines, they have been supplied with several thousand mobile repair shops, and a network of inter-district workshops for capital repairs has been organized. In 1948, many MTS were supplied with special radio installations which enable them to improve their control over the tractor brigades in the fields, quickly eliminate defects, send up fuel in time, etc.



The February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) made provision for the appointment of vice-managers of MTS to be in charge of the political side of the work. It is the function of these vice-managers to secure an improvement in the work of the MTS, to protect the interests of the state, to see to it that the kolkhozes and the MTS adhere to the terms of their contracts, and that there should be no mutual concealment of bad work. Improvement in the work of the Party organizations at MTS and raising the level of political educational work is the chief lever for strengthening the MTS, for converting them into genuine bases of the struggle for big crops.

Numerous examples can be quoted to show how good work by the MTS helps to improve the cultivation of the soil and to increase the yield at the kolkhozes they serve. The leading personnel of the Dyominskoye MTS (in the Stalingrad Region) have been awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labour for having achieved, in a dry summer, at the kolkhozes they served, a yield of 22.3 centners of winter wheat per hectare on an area of 611.5 hectares, and 17.6 centners per hectare on an area of 3,260 hectares.

Already before the war, the kolkhozes served by the Dyominskoye MTS adopted the travopolye crop rotation system and planted a series of shel-

ter belts around their fields. On the termination of the war, this system was still more widely adopted. The kolkhozes which adopt this system obtain yields from 3 to 5 centners per hectare higher than those who do not adopt it. The Dyominskoye MTS achieved a high level of mechanization of the principal field operations at the kolkhozes it serves. Nearly all the ploughing was mechanized. In 1947, a 15 hp tractor worked an average of 436 hectares; both in 1947 and in 1948 the tractor operations plans were overfulfilled. The MTS works well within the schedule and keeps to the agrotechnical rules.

The story of the postwar restoration of the Shevchenkovskaya MTS—the first machine and tractor station set up in our country—is instructive. The German fascist invaders played havoc with the station; they took away or destroyed the tractors, harvester combines, agricultural machines and equipment. When the area in which this MTS is situated was liberated from the invaders in April 1944, it looked as though it would take many years to restore the station and achieve the prewar production of grain at the surrounding kolkhozes.

The self-sacrificing labours of the employees at the Shevchenkovskaya MTS under the guidance of the Party organization and the assistance it received from the state enabled the station to



resume operations in an extremely short space of time. In 1944, the tractors worked only 10,000 hectares, but in 1948 they worked over 78,000 hectares. The work per 15 hp tractor increased from 242 hectares in 1944 to 914 hectares. Within three years, all the land of the kolkhozes the station served was ploughed, soil cultivation was resumed and the kolkhozes began to reap good harvests. Of the 41 kolkhozes served by the station, 38 have already adopted the correct travopolye crop rotation system. The shelter belts in the area served by the station cover a total of 370 hectares and will be increased to 1,000 hectares within the next few years. Of the winter wheat area, 83% was ploughed with coulter attachments; 90% of the winter fallow was raised. The entire grain area is supplied with graded seed and a considerable area has been planted with new, high-yield varieties raised by the Lysenko Plant-Breeding Institute.

The kolkhozes served by this MTS obtain high yields. Thus, the Budyonny Kolkhoz, in 1948, obtained 27 centners of winter wheat per hectare on an area of 440 hectares, and the Cheshskaya Kompartiya Kolkhoz obtained 19.5 centners per hectare on an area of 323 hectares.

The Kostromka MTS, in the Dniepropetrovsk Region, is also a promoter of advanced agrotechniques, a fighter for high-grade cultivation at the

kolkhozes it serves. It keeps strictly to agrotechnical rules—ploughs furrows 20 and even 24 centimetres deep. A considerable part of the ploughing is done with the aid of coulter attachments. The whole of the spring crop is sown on winter fallow, which the MTS prepares the previous autumn and harrows and cultivates in the spring. The MTS has mechanized the sowing and tending of cultivated crops. On the advice of agronomists and with the assistance of the mechanics of the MTS, all the kolkhozes in the area have made wide-row seed drills. The ground for maize and sunflower is ploughed in the autumn; in the spring it is harrowed and cultivated twice, at an interval of ten days, and the crops are cultivated three times with tractor ploughs.

In 1948, the kolkhozes served by the Kostromka MTS collected an abundant harvest and were the first to meet their commitments to the state. The MTS was the first in the region to fulfil its tractor operations plan and to deliver its produce payments.

The volume of work performed by the MTS is growing year after year. In 1947 it was 29% above that of 1946. The tractor operations plan for spring ploughing, cultivation before sowing, sowing the crop, raising summer fallow and sowing winter crops was overfulfilled. The amount of work done per tractor was 21% above that of 1946.



In 1948 and 1949, the machine and tractor stations achieved further success in their work. Fulfilling their contract obligations to the kolkhozes, they, in 1948 conducted agricultural operations 23 % in excess of those conducted in 1947, and in 1949, 21 % in excess of 1948. They made better use of their tractors. The amount of work per tractor in 1948 was higher than in 1947, and 13 % higher than in 1940. There was a still further improvement in 1949. Characteristic of the work of the MTS in 1948 and in 1949 was the fulfilment of their plans for all types of tractor operations: spring ploughing, sowing spring crops, cultivation before sowing, raising summer fallow, sowing winter crops, etc. Thus, the decision of the February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) to stop the practice of MTS of fulfilling plans on account of easy operations, and to make them fulfil the plans for all agricultural operations, is being carried out.

To sum up: in an exceptionally short period after the termination of the war, the Soviet State supplied agriculture with advanced technical appliances and fully restored and enlarged the network of MTS compared with what it was before the war. The machine and tractor stations are successfully carrying out the chief agricultural operations, are rendering the kolkhozes ever-in-

creasing assistance, are still more extensively mechanizing agricultural operations and are obtaining big crops.

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Of enormous importance for raising agriculture and livestock farming to a higher level in the postwar five-year plan period is the utmost improvement of the techniques employed and the extensive utilization of the achievements of advanced agrobiological science by the kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the U.S.S.R. Only under Socialism are unlimited possibilities opened for the application of science to agriculture.

It is a law of capitalism for agriculture to lag behind industry and for the natural resources of agriculture to be wastefully exploited and exhausted. Capitalism exhausts and destroys the natural powers of the soil.

What is happening in agriculture in capitalist countries today brilliantly proves this thesis. In the United States, every year, water washes away from the fields 3,000 million tons of solid substances containing 40,000,000 tons of phosphorous, potassium and nitrates. Stuart Chase, the American economist, states that "more than 300,000,000 acres—one-sixth of the country—is gone, going or beginning to go. This, we note, is on land originally the most fertile." A vivid description of the way capitalism destroys the pro-



ductive forces of agriculture was given by Henry Wallace at the time he was U.S. Secretary for Agriculture. He expressed the opinion that the severest accusation that can be levelled at the capitalist system is that of exhausting the natural resources of the country without restoring them. He said: "...we made no real effort to restore to the soil the fertility which has been removed.... Much of the grass land of the great plains has been plowed, exposed, and allowed to blow away. Timber land under private ownership has been destructively logged off.... Human beings are ruining land, and bad land is ruining human beings."

The socialist system alone creates conditions for conducting agriculture on rational lines. Large-scale collective farming makes possible the employment of advanced techniques, the extensive mechanization and electrification of agricultural operations and the employment of the achievements of advanced agronomical science. The kolkhoz system brings to the front hundreds of thousands of skilled agriculturists who raise big crops, and it brings the achievements of agronomic science within the reach of the entire mass of kolkhozniks. Only under Socialism is it possible to carry out large-scale irrigation and afforestation work and nationwide measures for restoring soil fertility.

Soviet agriculture reached a truly flourishing level during the prewar Stalin five-year plan periods. During the period of socialist reconstruction the agriculture of the U.S.S.R. became not only the most large-scale and most highly mechanized agriculture in the world, but also the most advanced in the methods employed.

In tsarist Russia, the methods employed in agriculture were extremely backward. The three-field system predominated. There were scarcely any graded seeds. Grass growing was underdeveloped. Mineral fertilizers were used to an extremely limited degree, and none at all was used on poor and middle farms. The low agrotechnical level was the natural reflection of the general backwardness of pre-revolution agriculture, in which survivals of serfdom predominated.

In the U.S.S.R., in the prewar Stalin five-year plan periods, a radical change took place in the standard of agriculture. The primitive three-field system became a thing of the past.

Before the war, correct crop rotation was maintained at a large number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes. In the five prewar years, from 1936 to 1940 alone, the area under perennial grasses increased from 2,500,000 hectares to 5,400,000 hectares, and in the same period the hay area increased from 4,000,000 hectares to 9,300,000 hectares.



Graded seed was widely disseminated. In 1932, the area planted with graded seed amounted to 27.6 % of the total grain crop area, but in 1938 it amounted to 67 %. Two-thirds of the total grain crop area was planted with graded seed.

One of the chief indices of high-grade agrotechnique is deep ploughing. Small, backward, individual farming employing primitive techniques cannot adhere to the agrotechnical rules of deep ploughing. Shallow ploughing predominates in small-scale farming, and this means small crops and weed-choked fields.

The mechanization of agriculture and the collective organization of labour made it possible, on an immense scale, to plough the soil to the depth required by science. In 1911, the soil in the central chernozem belt was ploughed to a depth of 5-10 centimetres; in 1928 the depth was 10-12 centimetres, and in 1937 the kolkhozes were able to practice deep ploughing—18-20 centimetres—in conformity with agrotechnical requirements.

The war disturbed the practice of proper crop rotation. The planting of graded seed considerably diminished, particularly in the regions which had been in enemy occupation. Wartime difficulties made it impossible to adhere to agrotechnical requirements (early raising of summer fallow, deep ploughing, use of coulter attachments)

as carefully and on the same scale as before the war.

The standard of socialist agriculture is being raised in the postwar five-year plan period by the consistent introduction of the achievements of advanced agronomic science—the travopolye system. This system, which is based on the teachings of the most outstanding representatives of Russian agronomic science—Dokuchayev, Kostychev and Williams—includes a number of most important agronomic measures: the planting of shelter belts on watersheds and on the borders of crop rotation fields; the introduction of travopolye field and fodder crop rotation and the rational utilization of pastures; a proper system of cultivating the soil and tending crops, primarily the extensive practice of raising rough and winter fallow and of clearing away stubble; use of organic and mineral fertilizers; the planting of graded, high-yield seed suitable for the given local conditions; development of irrigation with local water resources by digging ponds and reservoirs. The travopolye system as a whole, helps to restore soil fertility, provides protection against drought and develops all the branches of agriculture—field crop and grassland cultivation, livestock farming, vegetable growing, forestry, and others. The Socialist State, in an organized manner, is carrying out a whole system of agronomic and agrotech-



nical measures based on the teachings of Dokuchayev, Kostychev and Williams. Guided by the Party of Lenin and Stalin, it is organizing a nationwide movement for introducing advanced agronomic standards in socialist agriculture. Many millions of kolkhoz peasants and MTS and sovkhos employees are enriching science with the experience of the people, and are actively carrying out the Government's measures to increase yield.

Soon after the termination of the war, on June 21, 1945, the Government adopted a decision "On the Measures to be Taken to Promote the Introduction and the Practice of Crop Rotation in Kolkhozes." This decision has been an important factor in the postwar upswing of agriculture. The Government strongly condemned the violation of the crop rotation system that had taken place in a number of districts. It declared that the introduction and practice of crop rotation is a decisive means of increasing crop yield, and that grass sowing, with the extensive use of mixed leguminous and perennial grass seed as recommended by Academician Williams, and the timely raising and cultivation of summer fallow, are essential conditions for the introduction of proper crop rotation. Thus, the fundamental postulates of the travopolye system acquired the force of law. The advantages of the socialist system of economy make it possible, in an organized manner, to in-

introduce the achievements of advanced agronomics throughout the whole country.

The Government, in its decision, gave definite assignments for introducing crop rotation in all regions, territories and republics, taking into account local conditions and the specific features of the given agricultural zones. In conformity with these assignments, in 1945 alone, crop rotation was restored, or newly introduced, in over 40,000 kolkhozes, i.e., more than one-fifth of all the kolkhozes in the country.

The instruction of the February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) to introduce proper crop rotation in all kolkhozes and sovkhoses in the U.S.S.R. in the course of the postwar five-year plan period is also being successfully carried out. At the present time crop rotation schemes, and the plotting of fields for this purpose, have been worked out in over 170,000 kolkhozes.

The introduction of crop rotation, however, is only the beginning of the struggle to increase soil fertility. The travopolye system of crop rotation must become the prevailing practice. Of extreme importance is the proper planning of crops and the application of the whole system of agronomic measures that ensure big yields on the crop rotation fields. The Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and the Central Committee of the



C.P.S.U.(B.) have laid it down that the working out of crop rotation schemes for all kolkhozes and sovkhozes in the country must be completed no later than 1955.

The Party and the Government are devoting great attention to the expansion of the area planted with graded seed. The February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) decided that the transition to the planting of specific higher yield graded seed for winter and spring grain crops in entire districts must be completed in all regions, territories and republics no later than 1949.

This assignment too is being successfully carried out. Thus, in 1948, the area planted with graded seed for winter and spring grain crops increased by 16,000,000 hectares over that of 1947. In the spring of 1949 alone, 9,500,000 centners of graded and improved spring crop were supplied to the kolkhozes out of state resources in exchange for ordinary seed.

It is not only a matter of restoring the planting of graded seed to the prewar area, but of considerably enlarging the area and of using more fertile grades of seed for grain and other crops. In particular, the February Plenum imposed the obligation of improving the work of seed selection and cultivation—of breeding winter-hardy varieties of winter wheat for the kolkhozes in

Siberia, of early-ripening varieties of spring wheat for Siberia and the Trans-Urals, and of other highly fertile varieties of cereal, leguminous and oil-bearing plants, and also grasses, suitable for the given local conditions.

Advanced agronomic science comes to the assistance of the Soviet people. The state plant-breeding stations have done immense work in breeding highly fertile varieties of cereals, leguminous and oil-bearing plants suitable for particular local conditions.

Out of the 1947 harvest, the plant-breeding stations sent in for the state grading test 156 new varieties of crops, and out of the 1948 harvest about 100 new varieties were sent in. New, highly fertile varieties are being raised. For instance, the "Odesskaya-3," a frost-and-drought-hardy wheat raised according to the method of Academician Lysenko, yields 3 to 5 centners per hectare more than the ordinary varieties. In 1948, grain seed vernalized according to Academician Lysenko's method, was planted on an area of 7,000,000 hectares.

Modern agronomy requires a proper system of soil cultivation—thorough ploughing with coulter attachment, clearing stubble, working of winter and summer fallow, and other measures.

The ploughing of winter fallow with coulter attachments helped to raise yield 2.5 to 3 centners per hectare. The coulter helps considerably to im-



prove the structure of the soil, to remove the upper layer, which has most lost its valuable technical and productive properties, and to replace it with another layer. Ploughing with coulter attachments has become widespread in the postwar period. In 1947, 2,400,000 hectares of summer and winter fallow were ploughed in this way, and in 1948, over 11,000,000 hectares—much more than in 1940.

Year after year the area of winter fallow raised increases. In 1947, winter fallow for the 1948 crop was raised on an area of 8,000,000 hectares more than in 1946; in 1948, the area was 17,000,000 hectares more than in 1947. Clearing stubble, raising summer fallow and the other measures that enter into the system of high-grade agricultural methods are employed on an extensive scale.

Thus, socialist agriculture has achieved considerable successes in the postwar period in putting into practice the principal elements that make up the travopolye system. Under capitalism it is impossible to introduce important changes in agrotechniques on any extensive scale. Socialist economy, however, is everywhere adopting new and more perfect methods of soil cultivation with unprecedented rapidity.

The Government's decision on the "Plan for Planting Shelter Belts, for Introducing Travo-

polye Crop Rotation, and for the Digging of Ponds and Reservoirs to Ensure High and Stable Crops in the Steppe and Wooded Steppe Regions of the European Part of the U.S.S.R.," adopted on Comrade Stalin's initiative in 1948, marks a new stage in the struggle to raise the standard of socialist agriculture. In the system of measures laid down in this plan, a most important place is assigned, equally with the introduction of travopolye crop rotation, to the planting of shelter belts. In the steppe and desert regions, huge state shelter belts are being planted, ranging from 170 to 1,080 kilometres in length, making a total length of 5,320 kilometres. The socialist system of economy alone can create the possibility of carrying out work of such vast dimensions in conformity with a long-term plan. In addition to the big state shelter belts, similar belts are being planted round kolkhoz and sovkhoz fields on a total area of 5,709 hectares, i.e., twice the area of Belgium.

The Government's decision points to the necessity of ensuring the wide participation of the kolkhozes in the planting of shelter belts around the kolkhoz fields. A considerable part of this work is being undertaken by the state. The Ministry of Forestry has been assigned the task of afforesting all ravines in kolkhoz territory in the steppe and wooded steppe regions of the European



part of the Soviet Union. To check the advance of the sands from the steppes and semi-deserts to the fertile regions, it is planned to fix and afforest the sands on a total area of 322,000 hectares. In the course of the next seven years, over 44,000 reservoirs and ponds are to be dug.

This immense program of afforesting vast regions of the country will call for the extensive mechanization of laborious operations. Five hundred and seventy afforestation stations, equipped with first-class mechanisms, will be set up for the purpose of planting the state shelter belts, as well as the shelter belts around the kolkhoz lands. Industry has been given the assignment of increasing the output of new agricultural machines and equipment and of improving their design to suit the requirements of the travopolye system of agriculture.

Drought, which periodically afflicts the most fertile regions of the U.S.S.R., causes heavy damage to agriculture. Under capitalism it is impossible effectively to combat drought. Socialist society alone is capable of organizing the struggle against drought on an extensive scale, of transforming nature and making agriculture independent of meteorological conditions. The Soviet people are successfully carrying out Stalin's immense afforestation plan. Shelter belts have already been planted on an area of over 500,000 hectares. A

still larger area has been prepared for planting in 1950. Thousands of ponds and reservoirs have been dug.

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A great part in the postwar upswing of agriculture is being played by the Soviet agronomic and biological sciences. The Soviet agronomic and biological sciences are the most advanced in the world. Guided by the teachings of Dokuchayev, Kostychev and Williams on soil formation and the methods of increasing soil fertility, Soviet agronomy has created a new stage in the history of agronomic science. Soviet biology has given the world the teachings of the great transformer of nature, I. V. Michurin. The eminent Soviet scientist, Academician Lysenko, and thousands of Michurinists are today creatively developing Michurin biology, organically combining it with the teachings of Dokuchayev, Kostychev and Williams.

Bourgeois biological science is dominated by the idealist, Mendel-Morganist trend, which proceeds from the false concept that species are immutable and that man cannot influence nature. Being a variety of the idealistic "theories" that proceeds from the concept that the world is unknowable, this "doctrine" disarms man in the struggle against nature. Soviet biology, which is



based on dialectical materialism, blazes new paths in science.

The works of Michurin, Lysenko and of their followers have shown that biology based on the only scientific foundation of dialectical materialism becomes an instrument for consciously influencing nature, a means of changing it for the benefit of man. The advanced ideas of Michurin and Lysenko could triumph only in the Land of Socialism, and only under socialist conditions could they be extensively applied in practical agriculture. Soviet scientists are directing their work towards the solution of the urgent present-day problems of socialist agriculture and livestock farming. Advanced science, enriched by the methods employed by the advanced kolkhozes, is becoming an increasingly mighty factor in the new upswing of agriculture in the postwar five-year plan period.

Extremely fruitful, for example, has been Academician Lysenko's prewar work on increasing the yield of millet. By employing Lysenko's method, it was possible to obtain as much as 15 centners of millet per hectare. Such a crop, several times larger than the average, was obtained in 1940 on an area of half a million hectares, and in 1947 on an area of a million hectares. During the war, the employment of Academician Lysenko's methods helped to introduce

winter wheat in the Siberian steppe regions and thereby helped a great deal to raise the level of agriculture in the eastern regions of the country. The summer planting of potatoes, also a Lysenko proposal, prevented the degeneration of this plant in the South and made it possible to obtain big potato crops there. The employment of Academician Lysenko's methods in the postwar period helped to improve the varieties of the most important agricultural crops. Big successes have been achieved in breeding drought-hardy varieties of cereal and other crops. Varieties of wheat are being bred with different periods of ripening, which relieves the labour tension at harvest time. Working under Academician Lysenko's guidance, the kolkhozniks in the Kiev Region have obtained a yield of 30-40 centners of kok-saghyz per hectare, compared with the ordinary yield of 3-4 centners. Work is being conducted to achieve a sharp increase in the yield of buckwheat. The Plant Breeding and Genetics Institute of the U.S.S.R. has bred a winter barley, the winter-hardiness of which exceeds that of all existing varieties of winter barley, and it ripens much earlier than the standard varieties. The Institute has transformed some varieties of wheat from winter into spring crops and has improved their power of resistance to that frightful blight that affects wheat—rust. Experiments are being con-



ducted to breed branched wheat, which has a yield of 500-600 poods per hectare. In 1949 branched wheat is being grown under ordinary crop conditions on considerable areas in 18 kolkhozes and 24 sovkhozes in the Moscow Region.

The employment of Michurin methods in livestock farming made it possible to raise the breeds of cattle that our socialist economy needs. A big achievement was the raising of the high-yield breed of dairy cattle known as the Kostroma. Kostroma cows yield as much as 4,800-6,300 kilograms of milk a year. The milk yield of many scores of cows in the Karavayevo Sovkhoz amounts to 10-14 and even 16 thousand kilograms per cow per year. Soviet breeds of fine-fleece sheep have been raised (Askania Rambouillet, Caucasian Rambouillet, and others), and this has relieved the country of the necessity of importing merino wool. Fine-fleece sheep raising has been carried into Siberia, the Volga region, and other districts. In the period from 1936 to 1940 alone, the number of fine-fleece and semi-coarse-fleece sheep in the U.S.S.R. increased sevenfold. The work conducted by the Michurinists is raising the standard of socialist agriculture and is laying the foundations for its further upswing in the future.

Thus, backed by the broad masses of the kolhozniks and MTS and sovkhoz employees, the Soviet State is introducing into practical agricul-

ture the achievements of advanced agrobiological science on a scale never witnessed before. Under the guidance and with the active assistance of the Bolshevik Party and the Soviet State, a mass movement has spread throughout the country for raising the standard of socialist agriculture, and this movement is a powerful factor in the postwar upswing of agriculture.

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The February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) stated that "...the Party's chief task in kolkhoz development is further to strengthen the agricultural artels, economically and organizationally; to increase the public property of the kolkhozes."

The struggle to strengthen the kolkhozes economically and organizationally and to secure the growth of public farming is at the same time a struggle for the communist education of the kolkhozniks. In the course of this struggle the kolkhozes have grown and become strong. There has come into being a large body of active kolkhozniks who have acquired immense experience in the management of large socialist agricultural enterprises.

During the prewar period of fulfilment of the Stalin five-year plan, better forms of organizing



production and labour and of the payment for labour were discovered and tried out in many thousands of kolkhozes.

In the postwar period, the Party has adopted a number of decisions to secure the further economic and organizational strengthening of the kolkhozes. These decisions rallied the entire mass of kolkhozniks for the struggle to liquidate breaches of Agricultural Artel Rules, to eliminate defects in the organization of and payment for labour, and in every way to strengthen the public farming of the kolkhozes.

On the initiative of Comrade Stalin, the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.), on September 19, 1946, adopted a decision on "Measures to Liquidate Breaches of Agricultural Artel Rules in Kolkhozes." These breaches of the artel rules had taken the shape of alienation of public, kolkhoz land, misappropriation of kolkhoz property, incorrect apportionment of workday units and violation of the democratic principles of management of artel affairs. The decision of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) condemned these abuses and violations of the Party's policy in kolkhoz organization as anti-kolkhoz and anti-state conduct, and imposed upon the leaders of Party and of Soviet organizations the obligation to liquidate

them and to safeguard the kolkhozes against encroachments upon kolkhoz property.

At the February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.), Comrade Andreyev stated that 4,700,000 hectares of public land had been restored to the kolkhozes, that the management and service staffs of kolkhozes had been reduced by 456,000, that 182,000 persons who had no relation with the kolkhozes had been removed from the pay rolls, and that 140,000 head of cattle and about 15,000,000 rubles in money which had been illegally taken from the kolkhozes had been returned. Those who had been guilty of misappropriating kolkhoz land and property had met with deserved punishment. To strictly supervise adherence to agricultural artel rules, to safeguard the kolkhozes against attempts to violate these rules, and also to settle questions connected with kolkhoz organization, the Government of the U.S.S.R. set up a Council for Kolkhoz Affairs.

The February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) adopted a number of decisions with the object of further improving the organization of and payment for labour in kolkhozes and of strengthening public production in them.

In April 1948, the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. adopted a decision on "Measures to Im-



prove the Organization of Kolkhozes, to Raise the Productivity of Labour and to Regularize its Remuneration in Kolkhozes." This decision developed and concretized the instructions of the February Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) after generalizing the experience of the advanced kolkhozes, and was a big factor in the economic and organizational strengthening of the kolkhozes. The Government's decision imposed the obligation strictly to adhere to agricultural artel rules, to attach brigades—the chief form of labour organization in kolkhozes—to definite fields for a period no less than a complete crop rotation, to attach brigades to definite hay fields, working animals and farm buildings, and not to permit frequent changes in the composition of brigades. Great attention was also paid to strengthening the team system within each brigade, which had proved its utility. The Government advised the kolkhozes to conduct all agricultural operations on the basis of individual and small-group piecework and resolutely to liquidate absence of personal responsibility in the organization of and remuneration for labour.

Of great importance are the new model rates of output that were sanctioned by the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. The old rates, drawn up by the People's Commissariat for Agriculture in 1933-34, were obviously out-of-date, and under

present conditions they hindered the raising of labour productivity in the kolkhozes. Moreover, these obsolete rates covered a very limited series of agricultural operations, and for many operations no rates at all existed. The model rates recommended by the Government cover all the principal agricultural operations and also building and auxiliary operations. The new rates are considerably higher than the old: ploughing 12-17%, harrowing 12-20%, grain reaping with reaping machine 20-29%, collecting sugar beets after they are dug up by beet harvesting machines 25-43%. The new rates have been a most important organizing factor in raising the productivity of labour in agriculture.

The decisions of the February Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) and of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. helped to regularize the remuneration for labour in the kolkhozes. As is known, remuneration for labour in kolkhozes is determined by the amount and quality of work done, measured in units of workdays; but in many kolkhozes the number of units booked to each team or brigade did not correspond to the results obtained, i.e., to yield per hectare in field work, or yield of animal produce in livestock farms. Hence, it frequently happened that brigades or teams which obtained smaller crops, but had put in more workdays, received more remuneration.



neration than brigades and teams which had produced bigger crops with a smaller expenditure of workdays. This method of remuneration hindered the growth of kolkhoz production and gave rise to just dissatisfaction among kolkhozniks. In its decision of April 19, 1948, the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. laid it down that not only supplementary, but also the principal operations in the kolkhozes must be paid by results, that the brigades and teams which obtain bigger crops, or obtain bigger yields from the herds in their charge, must receive more remuneration in kind and in money than those whose labour has produced smaller results.

Of great importance in the economic and organizational strengthening of the kolkhozes is the proper planning of expenditure of workdays. The February Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) laid it down that workday units must be disbursed economically and that their value must be raised to the utmost. Considerable attention to the planned expenditure of workdays is also devoted in the government's decision of April 19, 1948.

The decision of the Council of Ministers devotes special attention to tightening labour discipline in the kolkhozes. In his speech at the First All-Union Congress of Collective-Farm Shock Workers, Comrade Stalin emphasized that work

and Socialism are inseparable. Lenin's words: "He who does not work, neither shall he eat," were directed against exploiters who lived on the labour of others, and also against idlers who want to live at other people's expense. There are still some people in a number of kolkhozes who are registered as members and enjoy the rights of kolkhozniks, but take no part in kolkhoz work. The kolkhozniks who work conscientiously are naturally interested in putting a stop to violations of agricultural artel rules and in waging a determined struggle against shirkers and pseudo-kolkhozniks. The following is what the Ukrainian kolkhozniks wrote to Comrade Stalin: "In a number of kolkhozes the work is badly organized and operations are not conducted at the proper time . . . a certain section of the kolkhozniks still work badly, do not honestly carry out their duties, violate the artel rules and fail to put in even the minimum of workdays. But the managements of these kolkhozes pay no attention to these violators of labour discipline, shirkers and pseudo-kolkhozniks, whose only concern is to get as much as they can out of the kolkhoz and to live on the labour of the advanced kolkhozniks who honestly perform their work." The Government advised the kolkhozes to discuss at their monthly meetings how their able-bodied members were participating in kolkhoz work, to bring influence to bear on their



members who were remiss in their duties, and to intensify the struggle to tighten labour discipline.

The decisions of the February Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) and that of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. of April 19, 1948, met with hearty approval and became the fighting program of action of the entire kolkhoz peasantry of the U.S.S.R. Under the leadership of the Party organizations, the work to strengthen the kolkhozes, to increase public production and to raise the level of communist education among kolkhozniks was conducted in the kolkhozes with greater vigour than ever. The fulfilment of obligations to the state as the first duty of the kolkhoz, organization of new and strengthening of existing permanent brigades and teams, revision of output rates, introduction of payment by results in crop and livestock yield, tightening labour discipline and the struggle for a steady increase in crop and livestock yield became the focus of attention of kolkhoz Party organizations and of all kolkhozniks.

The reorganization of farm work and of the method of remuneration in conformity with the decisions of the Party and the Government helped to strengthen the kolkhozes. This can be proved by a number of examples.

As a result of reorganizing its work, revising obsolete output rates and booking the crop sepa-

rately for each brigade and team, the Zarya Pobedy Kolkhoz in the Zarsk District, Moscow Region, tightened labour discipline and greatly increased productivity of labour. In 1947, it took the artel 10 days to harvest the winter crop. In 1948, with the same number of able-bodied members, and with the same implements, the crop from a larger area was harvested in 6 days. The rate of sheaf binding—6 shocks per day—had been fixed 15 years ago. The overwhelming majority of kolkhozniks did 8-10 per day, but the rate remained unchanged. In 1948, new, progressive rates were introduced. Formerly, 5-6 workers per hectare were required for sheaf binding; in 1948, the work was performed by 2-3 workers. A similar increase in productivity of labour was noted in threshing and in ricking. The harvesting was completed in record time.

This was the result of the new attitude of the kolkhozniks towards the workday unit. The separate booking of the crop for each brigade and team caused the kolkhozniks not only to strive to earn as many units as possible, but also to overfulfil the yield plan, to make the workday units more valuable. The honest efforts of the kolkhozniks were rewarded by abundant crops, a high yield from the livestock and, correspondingly, higher remuneration. In 1948, at the Komsomolets Kolkhoz in the Pavlovskaya District, Krasnodar Ter-



ritory, every 1% of yield over and above the plan was, in conformity with the decisions of the Party and the Government, rewarded with an extra 1% of a workday. The team led by Anna Krepkaya overfulfilled its yield plan and had an extra 900 workdays booked to it. In many kolkhozes in the Krasnodar Territory, 2-3 kilograms of grain per workday were paid out in advance remuneration alone. In the Serp i Molot Kolkhoz in the Tikhoretsky District, kolkhoz families which had worked well received as much as 200-250 poods of grain as advance remuneration. Such are the successes achieved by rapidly growing collective farming.

One of the foremost kolkhozes in the country is the Krasny Oktyabr in the Kirov Region. The protection of public property and its utmost increase are the central objects of the kolkhozniks' attention. The work is properly organized, socialist emulation is widely developed, labour discipline is high. Eleven members have been awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labour. In 1947, every member booked an average of 500 workdays. It must be stated that the required output rate at this kolkhoz was higher than the average for the district. The kolkhoz follows a proper crop rotation, fertilizers are used on an extensive scale, only high-grade seed is planted. All this ensured a high yield. In 1947, the kolkhoz obtained 19

centners of grain per hectare on an area of 570 hectares, and a number of teams obtained as much as 30 and more centners per hectare. Before the revolution, the peasants in these districts, in the best years, obtained 30 poods (5 centners) per hectare.

The potato yield amounted to 250 centners, root crops 611 centners, and vegetables 300 centners per hectare.

The continuous growth of productivity of labour and the strengthening of public farming enable the kolkhozes systematically to overfulfil their obligations to the state in the matter of produce deliveries and to improve the welfare of the kolkhozniks. In 1947, the remuneration per workday in the kolkhozes in the Moscow Region amounted in money and grain to as much as that in 1939, and in potatoes and vegetables to twice as much. At the Proletary Kolkhoz, which as regards income can be taken as typical of the average in the Moscow Region, the total remuneration per workday amounted in 1947 to over 2 kilograms of grain, 15 kilograms of potatoes, vegetables and other produce, and 2.5 rubles in money.

In advanced kolkhozes, the remuneration per workday was even larger. In 1948 the members of the Borets Agricultural Artel in the Bronnitsky District, Moscow Region, received per workday



over 3 kilograms of grain, 17 kilograms of potatoes, vegetables, etc., and 14 rubles in money.

Thus, under the guidance of the Bolshevik Party and the Soviet Government, big successes have been achieved in the postwar period in the economic and organizational strengthening of the kolkhozes; and this has created the conditions for a further upswing of socialist agriculture in the U.S.S.R.

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A distinguishing feature of the postwar five-year plan period is the unprecedentedly wide dimensions socialist emulation has assumed among the workers in agriculture. In his address on the thirty-first anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, Comrade Molotov said that in 1948 "...socialist emulation on the collective and state farms attained unusually wide scope, for which our Party organizations primarily deserve the credit." The keynote of socialist emulation is the slogan: harvest big crops on large areas, settle all accounts with the state ahead of schedule, overfulfil plan for produce deliveries to the state. Socialist emulation has brought to the front many tens and hundreds of thousands of skilled, Stakhanovite, kolkhoz grain and livestock farmers who are able to organize their work most productively, to make use of all the achievements of

science and technology to increase the productive forces of agriculture. An important factor in organizing and developing socialist emulation in agriculture were the Ukazes of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. awarding the title of Hero of Socialist Labour and decorations and medals to kolkhozniks and MTS and sovkhoz employees for obtaining high yields of wheat, rye, maize, sugar beets, cotton, potatoes, flax, hemp, and of livestock produce, and for increasing the size of flocks and herds.

The Ukazes of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., which indicate the targets to be reached in increasing yield of socialist agricultural and livestock produce in order to win the title of Hero of Socialist Labour, or decorations and medals, rally millions of kolkhozniks for the struggle to increase these yields, to increase the productive forces in socialist agriculture and to strengthen and enlarge public farming in the kolkhozes.

The socialist organization of agriculture creates the conditions for obtaining such an increase in crop yields as small peasant market farming never attained and never could attain. Thus, the average yield of rye in the period 1909-13 was 7.4 centners per hectare, but in 1933-37 it rose to 9.6 centners, and in 1938 to 9.7 centners. Before the revolution, the average winter wheat



crop amounted to 8.7 centners per hectare; in 1938 the average yield was 11.6 centners per hectare.

Decorations and medals of the U.S.S.R. are awarded in those cases where the yield obtained on a definite area is several times larger than the average. In 1947, the title of Hero of Socialist Labour was awarded to field team leaders who obtained a yield of 30 centners per hectare of wheat or rye on an area of 8 hectares. Experience of the first three postwar years, however, showed that it is possible to obtain higher yields than those stipulated for in the Ukazes of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. In 1947, Comrade Frolova, a woman team leader at the Borets Kolkhoz, in the Bronnitsky District, Moscow Region, obtained a yield of 32.73 centners of rye per hectare on an area of 12.5 hectares. In the same year, Comrade Brovko, a woman team leader at the Bolshevik Kolkhoz in the Poltava Region, obtained a yield of 37.1 centners of wheat on an area of 8 hectares.

The Ukaze of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. issued on April 24, 1948, set new targets for those who are fighting for high yields; the title of Hero of Socialist Labour and decorations and medals of the Soviet Union were to be awarded that year for the attainment of high yields on larger areas than in 1947.

Thus, in 1947, the title of Hero of Socialist Labour was awarded to field team leaders for the attainment of 30 centners of wheat per hectare on an area of 8 hectares; but in 1948, such a yield had to be obtained from an area of 20 hectares to deserve the title. The Ukaze of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. mobilized the advanced workers in agriculture for the struggle to achieve still higher yields and on larger areas than in 1947. As a result of socialist emulation the kolkhozniks achieved still greater success in 1948. In that year, L. N. Kurkina, a woman team leader at the Komsomolets Kolkhoz in the Pavlovskaya District, Krasnodar Territory, obtained a yield of 36.67 centners of wheat per hectare on an area of 25 hectares. Z. F. Sokolyan, a team leader at the Chapayev Kolkhoz in the Staro-Minsk District, in the same territory, obtained a wheat crop of 37.4 centners per hectare on an area of 23.5 hectares. Mark Ozyorny, the famous producer of large maize crops, obtained in 1948 a yield of 210 centners of maize per hectare, compared with the average 10.3 centners. A. A. Parmuzina, Hero of Socialist Labour, a woman team leader at the Bolshevik Kolkhoz in the Byelopolsky District, Sumy Region, together with her team, obtains big crops year after year. In 1945, the team obtained 132 centners of kok-saghyz root per hectare, compared with the average of 4-5 centners, and in



1947 it obtained over a thousand centners of sugar beet per hectare.

For success achieved in 1947, the title of Hero of Socialist Labour was awarded to 2,118 workers in agriculture, of whom 442 advanced agriculturists received the award for achieving high yields of livestock produce; 4,348 were awarded the Order of Lenin, over 12,500 were awarded the Order of the Red Banner of Labour and about 40,000 received the "For Labour Valour" or the "For Labour Distinction" medals.

Every day our newspapers publish the glorious names of the best among Soviet patriots who have been awarded the lofty title of Hero of Socialist Labour, or Orders and medals, for successes achieved in socialist agriculture in 1948.

Evidence of the high esteem in which the labours of our men and women kolkhozniks for the benefit of our Socialist Motherland is held, is provided by the Ukaze of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. on "Awarding Heroes of Socialist Labour, Advanced workers in Agriculture, a second gold medal, the 'Sickle and Hammer.' "

By the Ukaze, Heroes of Socialist Labour who, in three consecutive years after they have received their title, continue to achieve yields that give them the right to the title of Hero of Socialist Labour, are awarded a second gold medal, the

“Sickle and Hammer”; and those who achieve such yields in the first and second year after their first award, are each year awarded the Order of Lenin. When a Hero of Socialist Labour earns a second gold “Sickle and Hammer” medal, a bronze bust of him is put up at his place of birth. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. has issued an Ukaze to award the title of Hero of Socialist Labour and decorations and medals to advanced workers in agriculture who achieve high results in livestock farming in 1949-51, and also to institute titles of honour for zoo-technicians and veterinarians. The vast masses of the kolkhoz peasantry have responded to this solicitude shown by the Party of Lenin and Stalin and by the Soviet Government by performing new deeds of valour in the field of labour.

The potency of socialist emulation lies in that it rouses the entire mass of the working people of the U.S.S.R. for the struggle to attain high productivity of labour. The methods employed by the skilled producers of big crops are brought to the knowledge of many millions of kolkhozniks and sovkhoz and MTS employees. The specific feature of 1948 in the field of agriculture is that thousands of kolkhozes, many MTS, and entire districts obtained crop yields far higher than before the war. This shows that in socialist agriculture, broad masses of kolkhozniks and MTS



and sovkhoz employees are lining up to average progressive output rates that far exceed average district and regional rates.

Already in 1947, many kolkhozes achieved high yields on large areas. Thus, the Senkovo MTS, in the Kharkov Region, enabled the kolkhozes it serves to attain a crop of 25.5 centners per hectare on a total area of 1,019 hectares. The Borets Kolkhoz, in the Moscow Region, obtained in the same year a grain crop of 27.8 centners per hectare on an area of 226 hectares. In 1948, the grain growers in the Tikhoretsk, Vyselky, Pavlovskaya, Bryukhovetskaya and a number of other districts in the Krasnodar Territory, attained an average of 120-130 poods per hectare on the *entire* winter crop area.

A vivid illustration of the successes achieved as a result of socialist emulation in obtaining high yields is provided by the Cherkassy District, Kiev Region. The yield per hectare in this district is increasing year after year, and in the past two years has far exceeded plan assignments. For example, in 1944, after the district was liberated from enemy occupation, the average yield did not exceed 8 centners per hectare; but in 1947 it was already 13.7 centners (the plan provided for 10.5 centners), and in 1948 the Cherkassy kolkhozniks obtained a yield of 19.1 centners per hectare, compared with 14.3 centners assigned in the plan.

We will remind the reader that in conformity with the Ukaze of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., kolkhozniks who obtain a yield of wheat or rye of 21 centners per hectare are awarded the "For Labour Valour" and "For Labour Distinction" medals. Thus, the kolkhozniks of a whole district have achieved an average yield close to that which entitles the grower to U.S.S.R. medals.

Year after year the kolkhozniks of the Kommunistichesky District, Moscow Region, are obtaining high yields. Out of a total of 148 kolkhozes in the district, 145 are already practising proper crop rotation. The District Committee of the Communist Party organized mass socialist emulation among the kolkhozniks and MTS and sovkhos employees to achieve high yields in 1948, with the result that the average grain yield for the district exceeded 21 centners per hectare.

The Cherkassy and Kommunistichesky Districts are not exceptions. The characteristic feature of 1948 is that record yields were obtained not only by individual districts, but by entire regions, on vast areas amounting to hundreds of thousands of hectares. In the Krasnoyarsk Territory, in spite of unfavourable weather conditions, yields ranging from 100 to 250 poods per hectare were obtained on an area of 150,000 hectares.

The great movement for raising productivity



of labour also spread to the workers in livestock farming. The advanced livestock farm workers have also overstepped the prewar level of labour productivity and are now carrying with them the entire mass of workers in the livestock sovkhozes and the kolkhozniks in the collective livestock farms. Thus, in 1938, the number of foals reared in the U.S.S.R. as a whole averaged 47 per 100 mares, but in 1947, the advanced workers in socialist livestock farming already reared 100 foals per 100 mares. The Kirov Kolkhoz, in the Tazov District of the Azerbaijan S.S.R., reared 63 foals from 63 mares.

In 1938, the average milk yield per cow was 1,110 litres for the year. In 1947, the Stakhanovites in the kolkhoz and sovkhoz livestock farms achieved a milk yield of 5-6 thousand litres per cow for the year. In the same year, Comrade Savchenko, a milkmaid at the Chervona Zarya Kolkhoz, in the Lebedin District, Sumy Region, obtained 5,810 litres of milk per cow from 8 cows.

Socialist emulation is now widespread among machine operators in agriculture. In the beginning of June 1948 the machine operators in the Steinhardt District, Krasnodar Territory, issued a call to combine operators and tractor drivers to harvest the crops quickly and without waste and to make each combine do work equal to no less than the rates for three seasons. The men and

women combine operators widely responded to this call. By the middle of August, Constantine Borin, the famous combine operator, with two linked "Stalinets-6" combines had harvested 2,010 hectares of grain crops, which is more than the total for five seasons. Comrade Klintukh, a combine operator at the Kopansky MTS, harvested 961 hectares of grain crops, which is more than the total for four-and-a-half seasons. Comrade Kostyaev, a combine operator at the Proletarsky MTS, Rostov Region, harvested 40 hectares per day, from sunrise to sunset. By August 19, he had harvested 1,237 hectares and threshed 10,500 centners of grain. In response to the appeal issued by the Regional Party organization, Comrade Kostyaev's example was followed by the combine operators throughout the region. Comrade Glazunov, of the Tselina MTS, harvested 1,200 hectares and threshed 17,300 centners of grain. To enable the reader to appreciate the significance of these figures we will state that the average per combine operator in 1938 ranged from 160 to 235 hectares. Big successes were also achieved by other men and women combine operators.

The advanced workers in agriculture are innovators in production. They master the technique of their work, are constantly working to improve their knowledge of agronomics, and discover new ways of increasing productivity of labour and of



crop yields. It is characteristic of the advanced workers in agriculture that they put into practice the achievements of advanced agronomic science and, in their turn, make their own contribution to science. And the new methods they introduce are widely taken up by the entire mass of kolkhozniks.

The example of the already mentioned Cherkassy District enables us to trace the connection between properly employed agrotechniques and increase in yield. During the period of enemy occupation, the fields in the district became overgrown with weeds and the crop yield dropped heavily. On top of that, in 1946, the district was affected by a very severe drought. Under the guidance of the Party of Lenin and Stalin, and with the assistance of the Soviet State, however, the kolkhozniks soon overcame the consequences of the war and the drought. In 1948, the nine-field crop rotation was completely restored; of a total of 20,000 hectares of grain land, 18,000 hectares were planted with high-grade seed. Ploughing with coulter attachments is widely practised. The field brigades received 11,000 standard hurdles for snow retention. In the spring, moisture retention operations for the winter crop were carried out in three days, and the planting of early spring crops in five days. Fifteen thousand hectares were ploughed up for winter fallow; 82,000

tons of manure were carted to the fields; on an area of 7,000 hectares, the kolkhozniks carried out supplementary feeding of the crops, and on an area of 2,200 hectares they carried out artificial pollination. The wide-spaced method of planting winter wheat recommended by the research workers at the Timiryazev Agricultural Academy is widely practised in the district. This method increases the yield 4-7 centners per hectare. The clearing of stubble is also widely practised. The kolkhozniks performed 3-4 soil loosening operations, and an equal number of times hand-weeded the kok-saghyz crop.

A high agrotechnical standard, the employment of the latest achievements of agronomic science, are characteristic of many kolkhozes in the Soviet Union. This nationwide movement for a high standard of agriculture is a striking expression of the mighty power of socialist emulation.

The successes of socialist emulation in agriculture in the U.S.S.R. are due primarily to the organizing and directing activities of the Party organizations. The February 1947 Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) imposed upon the Party organizations the duty of widely developing political educational work in the countryside, of organizing the masses for the struggle to restore and further develop agriculture. It imposed upon district, regional and republic Party



leaders the duty of systematically visiting the kolkhozes, of personally conducting political and Party organizational work among the kolkhozniks, and of assisting the leaders of the local Party organizations in developing Party and political work in the kolkhozes.

The leading Party bodies in the rural districts reorganized their activities in conformity with the decisions of the February Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.). They concentrated their attention on questions concerning the organization and political education of the masses. The Party organization in the kolkhozes grew considerably and became stronger. In the Gomel Region, before the war, there were only 38 kolkhoz Party organizations, but in 1948 there were 222. In the Voroshilovgrad Region, in 1945, there were 208 Party organizations to 1,000 kolkhozes; in 1948 there were 864; about 9,000 Communists are active in the countryside, and most of them are directly engaged in production.

The Communists in the kolkhozes conscientiously carry out their function as the vanguard. The leading part played by Communists can be illustrated by numerous facts concerning the year 1948. The kolkhozniks in the Krasnodar Territory gathered an abundant harvest and were among the first in the country to settle accounts with the state. The decisive factor in the achievement of

this victory was the reorganization of local Party activities. The Communists were put on the most difficult and most responsible agricultural work. In previous years there had been few Communists and Young Communist Leaguers in the majority of the kolkhoz brigades and teams in the Territory; but during the harvest in 1948, about 6,000 Communists and over 7,000 Young Communist Leaguers worked as hand reapers, reaping machine drivers, managers of threshing barns, weighmen and grain carters. The Communists took the lead in socialist emulation and by setting an example carried all the kolkhozniks with them in self-sacrificing labour. Comrade Lukashov, a Communist combine operator at the Leningrad MTS, Krasnodar Territory, operating a "Stalinets" combine, fulfilled the output rates of four seasons. Comrade Russov, a Communist truck driver at the Lenin Kolkhoz, carted 765 tons of grain to the delivery base. At the Novaya Gromada Kolkhoz in the Kharkov Region, Comrade Govor, the secretary of the Party organization, on the very first day of the harvest, hand-reaped 1.15 hectares of winter wheat and on the following day reaped 1.25 hectares. The Communists made it a rule not to leave the field until they had reaped a whole hectare. This is how they began, and the result was that not a single member of the kolkhoz failed to keep to the output rate.



As the kolkhoz Party organizations grew and gained strength, the work of training and educating an active body of kolkhozniks increased. Where such active bodies of kolkhozniks have been trained, the Party organizations successfully cope with their tasks, socialist emulation develops, productivity of labour increases and the prosperity and culture of the kolkhozniks rise.

The decision adopted by the February Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) on intensifying political educational activities among kolkhozniks is being successfully carried out. In the Voroshilovgrad Region, 350 village lecture halls have been opened; 230 have been opened in the Dniepropetrovsk Region, etc. These village lecture halls have become centres for the propaganda of advanced agronomic science and of political knowledge. Skilled lecturers inform the kolkhozniks of the achievements of Soviet agronomic science, of the teachings of Michurin, the works of Academician Lysenko and the methods employed by the innovators in agriculture. In the periods of spring and summer field work, the Party organizations transfer their political and educational activities to the fields. Hundreds of thousands of Communists, Young Communist Leaguers and active non-party kolkhozniks deliver short talks on topical questions, read and discuss interesting items in the newspapers, and

press home the urgent tasks of the day on the spot, where the struggle for the crop is going on. The ardent words of Bolshevik truth fan the flames of socialist emulation among the people and mobilize the kolkhozniks for the struggle for big crops.

It is the Party of Lenin and Stalin that organizes nationwide socialist emulation for big crops, for increasing the productivity of livestock farming, for fulfilling and overfulfilling the five-year plan for the rehabilitation and further development of agriculture. It is the Party that has trained and united this large body of active kolkhozniks who serve as a firm backing for the Party organizations in the struggle to strengthen the kolkhoz system.

Socialist emulation and mass Party political activity have been decisive factors in the postwar upswing of agriculture.

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In the prewar period of fulfilment of the Stalin five-year plans, the Soviet Union demonstrated to the whole world what unlimited possibilities for the development of productive forces are created by the socialist reconstruction of agriculture. In an exceptionally short space of time the U.S.S.R. was transformed into a land with the most advanced, large-scale, highly productive socialist



agriculture. During the Great Patriotic War, the strength and virility of the kolkhoz system and the patriotism of the kolkhoz peasantry were revealed with exceptional vividness. Amidst difficult wartime conditions, the socialist agriculture of the U.S.S.R. kept the armed forces and the people uninterruptedly supplied with food, and industry with raw materials.

The strength and virility of the kolkhoz system, the advantages of the socialist organization of agriculture, found expression in the rapid liquidation of the consequences of the war and in the new mighty upswing in all branches of agriculture in the U.S.S.R. after the war.



## **THE RISE OF THE MATERIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE OF THE SOVIET PEOPLE**

STEADY rise in the material and cultural level of the Soviet people is the law of development of Soviet society. Unlike the capitalist countries, where pursuit of profit is the chief stimulus to the development of production, in the Soviet Union the chief stimulus of development is the systematic expansion of the national economy for the purpose of satisfying the needs of society.

“The development of production is subordinated, not to the principle of competition and safeguarding of capitalist profit, but to the principle of planned guidance and systematic improvement of the material and cultural level of the toilers.”\*

The aim of the planned guidance of the Soviet economy is to ensure the utmost possible growth of the productive forces and improvement in the

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\* J. V. Stalin, *Leninism*, Moscow 1933, Vol. II, p. 308.



welfare of the people. In the Soviet national economy there is close and direct interdependence between the growth of productive forces, the growth of the wealth of society and improvement in the welfare of the people. This interdependence is characteristic only of socialist society.

Under capitalism, the accumulation of capital inevitably means pushing workers out of production, growth of unemployment, reduction of wages, the relative and absolute impoverishment of the working class. Thus, increase in production under capitalism means enrichment of the capitalists and growing poverty for the masses. Even an increase in the production of consumers' goods under capitalism does not imply an increase of consumption by the people, because, suffering from unemployment and miserably low wages, they cannot buy enough food and clothing for a decent human existence.

Under the socialist system of economy there is no contradiction between production and accumulation on the one hand, and consumption on the other. Society determines which part of the national income is to go for accumulation and the expansion of production, and which part for consumption; and year after year, the volume of both parts show an absolute increase. Socialist accumulation ensures a steady increase in the number of workers in production, in the mecha-

nization of labour, and in the workers' skill. The continuous growth of socialist production in the U.S.S.R., which is firmly based on constantly increasing demand, precludes the possibility of unemployment. Thus, being the premise for expanded socialist reproduction, socialist accumulation creates the conditions for improving the welfare of the Soviet people. In the U.S.S.R. exploiting classes, and consequently, parasitic consumption, have been abolished. This means that the whole of the national income is used for the benefit of the working people, it is used to satisfy their individual and common needs.

The history of Soviet Land proves convincingly that there is a direct connection between the growth of production and improvement in the welfare of the masses. During the prewar Stalin five-year plan periods, in the course of which the U.S.S.R. became a mighty industrial power, not only was unemployment abolished, but the number of factory and office workers increased nearly threefold in twelve years. The growth of the numerical strength of the working class was accompanied by a rise in its material and cultural level; the cultural-technical level of the working class was brought near to that of engineers and technicians. Wages steadily rose in this period. In 1938, the average wage was nearly four times that of 1929, and in the five years



1933 to 1938 alone, the total pay roll increased nearly threefold.

The victory of Socialism in agriculture abolished pauperism and poverty in the rural districts and created the necessary conditions for a life of prosperity and culture for the kolkhoz peasantry.

During these five-year plan periods, the level of popular consumption rose immensely. The sale of the chief items of food and manufactured goods to the people increased severalfold. The volume of retail trade increased enormously. The rise of the material welfare of the people was accompanied by a cultural revolution.

“Our revolution is the only one which not only smashed the fetters of capitalism and brought the people freedom, but also succeeded in creating the material conditions of a prosperous life for the people. Therein lies the strength and invincibility of our revolution.”\*

Still further to raise the material standard of living and cultural level of the Soviet people is one of the most important aims of postwar development.

The program of raising the standard of living of the working people was outlined by Comrade Stalin in the historic speech he delivered at the election meeting in the Stalin Election District of

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\* J. V. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 532.

Moscow on February 9, 1946. This program is embodied in the assignments of the five-year plan for the rehabilitation and further development of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. for 1946-50. In his speech, Comrade Stalin stressed: "...special attention will be paid to increasing the production of consumers' goods...."

The concern of the Party and the Government about increasing the production of consumers' goods found expression in the immense material and technical assistance that has been rendered the light and food industries. Supplies of fuel, electricity, equipment and necessary materials for the enterprises in consumers' goods industries have been greatly increased. Large funds have been assigned for their further capital development. The leading economic organizations and local Soviet bodies are concentrating their attention on mobilizing additional resources for increasing production, on seeking possibilities for building new and expanding existing enterprises producing consumers' goods. The consumers' goods departments in other plants and factories have been considerably enlarged. The development of local initiative has made it possible considerably to increase the output of local factories and producers' cooperatives.

Conscious of their responsibility to the state for improving supplies for the people, for improv-



ing their welfare, the workers in the consumers' goods industries have performed new feats of labour heroism. Socialist emulation has spread widely among them with the aim of fulfilling the five-year plan ahead of schedule. The result has been a considerable increase in the output of consumers' goods. In 1946 and 1947 the output of cotton fabrics increased more than 50 %, woolen fabrics 70 %, leather footwear 80 % and rubber footwear 230 %.

In 1948, the output of consumers' goods increased still further. The output of cotton fabrics exceeded that of 1947 by 24 %, woolen fabrics 28 %, leather footwear 23 %, rubber footwear 37 % and hosiery 44 %.

The upswing of agriculture made it possible to increase the output of the food industry. In two years, the output of the principal branches of this industry increased 50-100 %. In 1948, there was a further sharp increase in the output of food products. Output of sugar was 70 %, meat 25 %, butter 37 % and vegetable oil 33 % above that of 1947.

The intense growth of the consumers' goods industries has continued in 1949. Thus, output of these goods increased over that of 1948 as follows: woolen fabrics 19 %, silk fabrics 28 %, leather footwear 22 %, rubber footwear 28 %, vegetable oil 32 %, sausage 43 %, sugar 23 %,

soap 70 %, bicycles 44 %, radio sets 65 %, watches 94 %.

Thanks to the concern of the Party and the Government about increasing the output of consumers' goods, there has been a considerable increase in the output of the principal manufactured goods and food products; considerable success has been achieved in carrying out the assignment of the Law on the Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. for 1946-50, viz., to create in the country an abundance of the principal articles of consumption.

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Most important factors in improving the material welfare of the Soviet people were the reform of the currency, the abolition of rationing and the transition to open Soviet trade.

The advantages of the socialist system of economy were seen in the fact that although the Soviet Union suffered more damage from the invasion of the fascist hordes than any other country, it was able to abolish rationing and go over to open trade within two-and-a-half years after the termination of the war.

In capitalist countries, the situation is different. In 1949, four years after the termination of the war, food rationing still remained in most



West-European countries, and the rations were still on the border of starvation level. In Italy, the weekly fats ration amounted to 69 grams per person. In Spain, the weekly sugar ration was 72 grams. In the Scandinavian countries, Holland and Bizonia, the meat ration in 1948 was lower than in 1947. In Great Britain, rationing was introduced for a number of items that were not rationed even during the war: in July 1946, bread rationing was introduced, in 1947 potatoes began to be rationed and in the winter of 1947-48, each family received no more than 2-3 pounds per week; the bacon ration amounted to two ounces per week per person, and later was reduced to one ounce. The meat ration has also been reduced in the postwar period. In 1948 it was reduced one third, and it was reduced again in 1949. In 1948, rations were also considerably reduced in France and in a number of other West-European countries. The situation is still worse in Western Germany, where the ration is not even sufficient to keep body and soul together. Such are the direct results of the "Marshallization" of Western Europe. The continuation of rationing and the starvation level of the rations of the working people (the bourgeoisie has always avoided food restrictions, and is doing so now, by resorting to the black market), vividly illustrates how the capitalists shift the burden

of postwar rehabilitation and reconversion to the shoulders of the working people. Striving to retain their profits, the capitalists cynically assert that "abstemiousness" on the part of the workers—would be more correct to say semistarvation—an essential condition for the normal functioning of the national economy.

The Soviet State, after the victorious termination of the war, set to work to prepare for the abolition of rationing. At the end of 1947, rationing was abolished and the currency was reformed which strengthened the ruble and restored it to its full value. In the U.S.S.R., unlike capitalist countries, the currency was reformed in the interests of the working people. As a result of the currency reform and the strengthening of the ruble, real wages rose. The principles and technique of the currency reform in the U.S.S.R. testify to the concern the Soviet State shows for the needs of the people, for it took upon itself a considerable part of the loss incurred by the withdrawal of the old currency and the introduction of the new, full-value currency. The reform was carried out in such a way that the major part of the working people's savings in the savings banks remained intact. The loss the working people did incur was insignificant compared with what they gained by the abolition of rationing and the reform of the currency.



In capitalist countries, the financial and monetary policy of the ruling classes is directed against the interests of the working people. The enormous issue of paper currency to cover war and postwar expenditure depreciates the wages of the working people, ruins the middle classes and enormously enriches the monopolist upper stratum of society. This was the case after World War I, and it has happened again after World War II.

In the United States, prices have been irresistibly rising since the termination of the war. In May 1948, the prices of agricultural produce were three times as high as they were at the beginning of the war. The capitalist monopolies screw up prices and thereby make immense profits for themselves and sharply force down the standard of living of the working people. Even President Truman was obliged to admit this. In a message to Congress he stated that inflation was already undermining the standard of living of millions of families in the United States; food was costing too much; the cost of living has reached a fantastic level; schools and hospitals were in a state of financial distress.

The profits of the American monopolies, however, amounted to nearly 30,000 million dollars in 1947 and to 34,000 million dollars in 1948,

compared with 6,200 million dollars in 1937 and 24,500 million dollars in 1943.

The amount of money in circulation in the United States had increased 330% by the end of 1947, in Great Britain 200%, in France 400% at the end of the war and 700% by the beginning of 1948, compared with prewar. This has greatly depreciated the currency of these countries and has caused a drop in the real wages of the working people.

The operation of the "Marshall Plan" in Western Europe still further upsets the currency, makes the national currencies still more dependent upon the American dollar and, in the long run, increases poverty and starvation among the working people.

In September 1949, by order of Wall Street, the currency in all capitalist countries was devaluated and this resulted in an enormous rise in the prices of mass consumers' goods. Thus, in England, devaluation was immediately followed by a rise in the price of bread and other food-stuffs.

The strength and the advantages of the socialist system of economy enabled the Soviet State to reform its currency, and thereby liquidate the effects of war upon the currency, in no more than two and a half years after the termination of the war.



The successful reform of the currency facilitated the development of the national economy of the U.S.S.R., the consolidation of the might of the Soviet State and the raising of the standard of living of the working people.

Simultaneously with the currency reform came the abolition of the rationing of food and manufactured goods. The transition to unrestricted Soviet trade called for the reorganization of the Soviet trading system so as to provide consumers with the best possible service. In capitalist countries, trade is a source of gain for the capitalists. The capitalist traders do not care what they trade in and whom they trade with as long as they can make profit. They do not hesitate deliberately to sell bad quality goods, for the interests of the working people are alien to them.

The object of Soviet trade is to supply the needs of the people in the best possible way. At the same time, Soviet trade is the best form of organization of commodity circulation under Socialism. Soviet trade alone makes it possible to supply the people with all the goods they need in the necessary quantity and assortment in conformity with the tastes and growing requirements of every individual.

Preparation for the abolition of rationing called for the reorganization of the entire distributing system. The number of shops and stores

considerably increased. From January 1 to the end of 1947, 55,000 shopping establishments were opened, and the expansion of the distributing system continued in 1948: the state and cooperative trading organizations opened 35,000 new shops and stores.

Socialist emulation among the different trading organizations helps to provide the best service for consumers.

It is the duty of the trading organizations and the light and food industries still further to improve the assortment and quality of their products and ensure the satisfaction of the growing requirements of the Soviet people.

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A most important feature of the postwar development of our country's economy is the steady and consistent drop in prices. In his speech at the election meeting in the Stalin Election District in Moscow on February 9, 1946, Comrade Stalin urged the necessity of raising "the standard of living of the working people by steadily reducing the prices of all commodities." This is being done.

At the end of 1947, with the reform of the currency and abolition of rationing, the high commercial prices were abolished and lower uniform prices were fixed for all consumers' goods sold in state retail trading establishments. The price



of bread, cereals and all flour products, i.e., the staple foods of the broadest masses of consumers, were reduced below the former ration prices. The general drop in prices affected nearly all consumers' goods. Thus, the people were enabled to buy both food and manufactured goods in sufficient quantities at prices considerably below those of the rationing period. This was the first stage in the reduction of prices of consumers' goods.

The benefits of this considerable reduction in prices were felt by every workingman and workingwoman in the Soviet Union. The clear gain by the people from the reduction of state retail trading prices alone amounted in the course of a year to at least 57,000 million rubles, a truly enormous sum.

The reduction of state retail trade prices led to a considerable reduction in cooperative and kolkhoz trade prices. In 1947 and 1948, cooperative trade prices dropped two-thirds and kolkhoz market prices dropped over three-fourths.

Thus, in all three forms of Soviet trade—state, cooperative and kolkhoz market—there was a considerable drop in prices. Kolkhoz and cooperative trade accounts for about 33% of the total goods and produce sold to the population in the course of the year; consequently, the drop in prices in these two branches of trade amounted

to a total of at least 29,000 million rubles. Hence the saving to the people from the drop in prices in all branches of retail trade amounted in the course of the year to about 86,000 million rubles. The result of this first stage of reduction in prices was a considerable increase in the purchasing power of the ruble, the rate of exchange of the ruble with foreign currency improved, there was a considerable rise in real wages and salaries and a considerable saving in expenditure for the peasants when buying manufactured goods.

Mention must be made of the 10-20% reduction that took place in April 1948 in the prices of cultural and domestic requirements like radio sets, gramophones, bicycles, motorcycles, sewing machines, watches, musical instruments, cosmetics, electrical appliances, etc.

Goods of this kind occupy an important place in the lives of the working people of the U.S.S.R. and their use is spreading with the rise in the standard of living. Before the war that was thrust upon the Soviet people by German imperialism, the sale of goods that indicate the cultural development of the people reached dimensions unprecedented in the history of Russia. Of exceptional interest is the growth in sales of goods of this kind in the period of the second and third five-year plans. From 1933 to 1938 the sale of all cultural requirements almost trebled. Sales of



watches increased sixfold and of radio sets even ninefold. Highly indicative is the severalfold increase, in the prewar five-year plan period, in the sales to kolkhozniks of cultural requirements, particularly of gramophones, radio sets, musical instruments, bicycles and similar articles that characterize the growth of the cultural needs of the Soviet countryside. During the war, the demand for goods of this kind diminished, for reasons that will be understood; but there has been a marked revival in the demand since the war ended. The postwar five-year plan anticipates a growing demand for these goods and therefore provides for an increase in their production. For example, the output of cameras in 1950 will be 300% and of radio sets and bicycles 450% of the prewar output.

That is why the reduction of prices of cultural and domestic requirements is an important factor in the improvement of the people's welfare.

The further upswing of the national economy, the increase in the production of consumers' goods and the new achievements in reducing cost of production in the latter half of 1948 created the conditions for another reduction of state retail prices of consumers' goods. This new reduction was started in 1948 and completed on March 1, 1949. This was the second stage in the reduction

in prices of consumers' goods. The prices for bread, flour, cereals and macaroni were further reduced. Prices were reduced for principal food products like meat, butter, fish, confectionery, etc., and also for the most important manufactured goods, such as woolen and silk fabrics, clothing, footwear, and many others. There was a further considerable reduction in the prices of cultural and domestic requirements. By this second stage in the reduction of state trade prices the people gained at least 48,000 million rubles per annum. It goes without saying, that this further reduction of state retail prices caused an immediate and, in the main, a similar drop in cooperative and kolkhoz prices. This means that the people gained an additional sum of no less than 23,000 million rubles.

Thus, the people's total gain from the second stage in the reduction of prices amounted during the year to about 71,000 million rubles.

The consecutive reductions in prices were strikingly reflected in the fact that in 1948 the purchasing power of the ruble doubled.

As a consequence of this, and also of the increase in money wages, real wages are rising very considerably. In 1948, real wages more than doubled compared with 1947.

The increase in the purchasing power of the ruble and this considerable increase in real wages



provide a vivid illustration of the operation of the most important law of Soviet economy, viz., continuous improvement in the people's welfare.

In the Soviet Union prices are falling, the purchasing power of money is increasing, and with this, real wages are rising. In capitalist countries, however, in the postwar as in the prewar period, the people's standard of consumption is sinking. Highly indicative is the fact that this manifests itself in two ways—in rising prices and in a sharp drop in the purchasing power of money, and in the direct reduction of money wages. Present-day monopoly capital is conducting an offensive against the working people's standard of living along both these lines. For example: Official indexes of food prices show that in April 1947, prices were 730%, and at the end of that year were 1,300% above the prewar level. In the course of the year, prices almost doubled. Prices continued to rise in 1948. The real wages of the French workers are irresistibly dropping. In August 1946, the purchasing power of the French working class was 79% of the prewar level, and in 1948 it had sunk still further to 51%. The monopolists' profits, however, are simply shooting up. In 1946 alone, the profits of joint-stock companies in France increased more than sixfold—from 17,000 million to 110,000 million francs. In 1938, capitalists' profits amounted to

29 % of the national income, but in the first half of 1948 they amounted to 43 %. A picture typical of the capitalist world—prices of consumers' goods doubled, sharp drop in the people's consumption, and at the same time an immense increase in capitalists' profits!

The prices of consumers' goods are today continuously rising in all capitalist countries, and this rise is primarily affecting the main items of food of the working people. Here are a few examples: In France, from the third quarter of 1947 to the third quarter of 1948, the cost of food items essential for a minimum standard of living rose 57 %. In November prices rose again—sugar 46 %, margarine 119 %, vegetable oil 117 %. In July in Japan, the prices of rice, wheat, barley, potatoes and beans almost doubled. It is perfectly obvious, that a rise in the prices of articles of mass consumption hits the working people.

In Great Britain, according to official statistics, which are obvious underestimations, from June 1947 to June 1948, the retail price index rose 10 %, while wages remained unchanged. Even according to official figures, consumption of the most important items of food dropped in the course of the year, and the British working people's standard of consumption is considerably lower than before the war. Consumption of fats in Great Britain has dropped 50 %, and that of



meat and sugar 25%. One must bear in mind the sharp increase in the consumption of substitutes by the British working people; this means a reduction in food calories. Purchases of clothing, footwear and domestic requirements are also dropping.

The average earnings of a British worker range from 85 to 90 shillings a week, whereas the rent of anything like a decent house is about 80 shillings a week. The workers are compelled to live in slums and pay from 40 to 45 shillings per week in rent. To purchase the hunger rations of food that are allowed, an average family must spend at least 50 to 60 shillings per week.

The way the lackeys of imperialism boost the "Marshall Plan" as evidence of "Uncle Sam's" generosity to Europe is well known. But the "Marshall Plan" is perpetuating the reduced standard of living of the working people of Europe. According to the most widely advertised projects of this plan, even in 1952 at best, the people of Europe will receive 10-15% less meat, sugar and fats than they received before the war.

In the United States, a country that did not endure the destruction of war, and the ruling classes of which grew immensely more rich out of the war, the conditions of the working class are steadily deteriorating.

One in seven of the urban population of America is starving, and 10,000,000 of the rural population are living in dire want.

In the Soviet Union, the increase in the output of consumers' goods, the abolition of rationing, the reduction of retail prices and increase in real wages ensured an increase in the working people's consumption. An increase in retail trade under Soviet conditions is a direct index of the prosperity of the working people. It must be borne in mind that the direct interdependence between increase in retail trade and the improvement in the welfare of the masses is characteristic only of socialist society, where there are no exploiting classes and no parasitic consumption. For this reason, growth in retail trade, i.e., increase in the sale of goods to the population, is a direct indication of an increase in the people's consumption. In capitalist countries there is abundance and luxury at one pole of society, among the rich, and poverty and starvation at the other pole, among the working people. In the Soviet Union, such a situation is absolutely impossible. The standard of consumption of the Soviet people is steadily rising. Already in the first postwar year retail trade increased 30%; sales of food products to the people were 15%, and of manufactured goods 85% above those of 1945. In 1947, retail trade rose another 17%. In that year the people of So-



viet Land bought in state and cooperative stores over 50 % more goods than they bought in the last year of the war. The Soviet people's consumption gave an exceptionally big leap upward when rationing was abolished. For example: in 1948 they bought 56 % more bread, 100 % more sugar and 45 % more confectionery than they bought in 1947. Thus, as soon as rationing was abolished, they were able to feed much better than before.

In 1948, the people of Soviet Land began to buy much larger quantities of clothing and footwear than in 1947; sales of cotton fabrics increased 56 %, silk fabrics 29 %, and footwear 45 %. There was a further increase in the sales of food products, and particularly of manufactured goods, in 1949 amounting to 25 % above that of 1948. The immense and all-sided increase in the consumption of the broadest masses of the people of the Soviet Union is evident.

Within an exceptionally short space of time, the Soviet State was able to accumulate the necessary stocks of food and manufactured goods, abolish rationing, consistently reduce the prices of a wide range of goods and raise the people's standard of consumption.

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There is no unemployment in Soviet Land. Socialist society develops in conformity with the

laws of expanded reproduction. The continuous, uninterrupted growth of production, the absence of crises, and planned production create opportunities for the employment of increasing number of workers. The postwar upswing of the national economy is accompanied by an increase in the number of people employed. Already in 1946, the first postwar year, the number of factory and office workers increased by 3,000,000; in 1947 there was a further increase of 1,200,000, and in 1948 there was an increase of 2,000,000. The total increase for the first three years of the five-year plan period amounted to 6,200,000, and the total number employed exceeded the prewar, 1940, figure by 10%. In 1949, the number of factory and office workers in the U.S.S.R. exceeded that of 1948 by 1,800,000. Wages are rising. In 1948, the total pay roll for the country was nearly 100% above that of 1940.

In capitalist countries an opposite process is taking place. There, postwar reconversion has meant increased unemployment. In 1948 and 1949, the number of unemployed and semi-unemployed continued to grow. According to the returns of the Statistical Department of the U.S. Department of Commerce, the number of semi-unemployed in the United States in January 1949 was 9,500,000. At the present time, according to official statistics, there are over 14,000,000



unemployed and semi-unemployed in the United States.

The *New York Times* carried the following very eloquent headlines:

“Three Hundred in Line to Get Jobs as Laborers.”

“Many Veterans Among Throng Seeking Applications for Work at \$41.54 a Week.”

“Ready to Stay All Night.”

A scene typical of capitalism: hunger, poverty, increasing unemployment, war veterans seeking work as unskilled labourers!

In capitalist countries, the termination of the war and demobilization brought no relief for the working people. On the contrary, demobilization caused an increase in unemployment. In Italy, according to incomplete figures, there are over 2,000,000 unemployed; in Western Germany, which is under the occupation of American, British and French authorities, there are over a million unemployed, and in little Belgium over 300,000.

In the Soviet Union, unemployment has been abolished forever. The soldiers demobilized from the Soviet Army returned to peacetime work and found their places in the immense work of construction that is going on all over the country. Growing industry is absorbing more and more workers. The Soviet State is carrying out tasks

which cannot even arise in capitalist countries. One of these is the organized training of new skilled workers and improving the qualifications of the old.

According to the figures published by the State Planning Committee of the U.S.S.R. and the Central Statistical Board, in the first three years of the postwar five-year plan period, the vocational schools, railway schools and factory apprenticeship schools trained 2,200,000 young skilled workers. This means that after the war, these schools alone trained more workers than the total number of workers employed in heavy industry before the revolution. But in addition to this, in 1946, 1947 and 1948, 7,000,000 new skilled workers were trained and 10,400,000 workers improved their qualifications through individual and group instruction at the factories and at training classes.

The training of skilled workers on such a scale is a characteristic feature of the Soviet system. The socialist character of labour cultivates in the working people of the Soviet Union—in every worker, kolkhoznik, engineer, technician and office employee—a creative attitude towards work. Comrade Stalin has said that in Soviet society work has become a matter of glory, valour and heroism, that it is creative work which brings out the capabilities of the workers in socialist society. Characteristic of Soviet society is the con-



tinuous rise of the cultural and technical level of the working class to that of engineers and technicians. This rise was already evident before the war and it is continuing with unrelaxing force after the war. One of the manifestations of this rise is the striving of the masses of the Soviet workers to improve their qualifications, to widen their technical outlook, and to raise the whole standard of their work. The Soviet State encourages this striving by organizing instruction classes, night schools and other forms of mass technical education.

An index of the cultural growth of the workers in the Soviet Union is provided by the widespread character of inventions and rationalization proposals. In 1947, from every 1,000 workers, engineers and technicians came 145 inventions and rationalization proposals which caused a saving of 553,000 rubles. In our industry, one in every seven workers is an inventor. Which capitalist country provides such opportunities for creative activity and initiative, for such an immense rise in the cultural and technical level of the working class?

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The money wages of factory and office workers in the Soviet Union do not comprise their entire income. To these wages must be added at least sick and other benefits received from state

social insurance, holidays with pay, bonuses out of the directors' funds, free education and students' stipends, cost of qualification improvement instruction, free medical assistance, the maintenance of sanatoria and rest homes, recreation clubs, crèches and kindergartens, and allowances to mothers with large families. This raises average money wages by 38%. All these additional items of the Soviet people's income grew during the prewar five-year plan periods. Since the war, the state has been spending larger sums on welfare and cultural services for the working people; the sums assigned for them are now twice as large as those of prewar times and have reached the level planned for the end of the five-year plan period. In 1940, state expenditure on welfare and cultural services amounted to 40,900 million rubles, but in 1948, it amounted to 105,600 million rubles. In the 1949 budget, 119,200 million rubles are assigned for these services. These figures are indicative of the Soviet Government's unceasing concern for the welfare of the people.

There has been a considerable increase in state expenditure on social maintenance, viz., from 3,000 million rubles in 1940 to 21,400 million in 1949. This is a reflection of the Soviet State's unceasing concern for the men disabled in the war, for the families of the heroes who died fighting for their Motherland in the Great Patriotic War,



and for those disabled at work; all these receive pensions. Budget expenditure on education in 1949 amounts to 60,800 million rubles compared with only 22,700 million rubles in 1940. Such state concern for the education of the people is possible only in a socialist country. The enormous state assignments for education in 1949 make it possible to provide universal seven year education and further to develop high school education.

One of the great achievements of the Soviet State during the war was that it prevented the appearance of child vagrancy, which is usually an inevitable concomitant of war in capitalist countries. The war deprived many millions of children of their homes, turned them into orphans and threw them to the mercy of fate. Only in the Soviet Union did the state take all the necessary measures to prevent child vagrancy. The state assigns many billions of rubles for the maintenance of children's homes and other children's institutions.

In 1947, state assignments for the protection of public health were twice those of 1940, and these assignments continued to grow in 1948 and in 1949. The 1949 state budget assigns 21,600 million rubles for this purpose compared with 18,400 million rubles in 1947. This indicates that the state is successfully restoring the network of medical centres, that it is liquidating the con-

sequences of the war and achieving new successes in the sphere of the protection of public health. The Stalin Constitution guarantees the citizen the right to medical treatment and rest. To enable citizens to enjoy this right an extensive network of sanatoria, rest homes and other institutions has been created in the U.S.S.R. During the war many of these institutions were closed; but as soon as the war ended they all began to function again. In 1946, 530 sanatoria and 300 rest homes with total accommodation for 120,000 visitors were opened. In 1947 and 1948 still more were opened; in 1948 alone additional accommodation was provided for 28,000 visitors.

There has been a considerable increase in state assistance to mothers in the form of an expansion of the network of crèches, consultation centres and kindergartens. State allowances for mothers of large families are now several times higher than before the war.

Thus, a most important factor in the improvement of the people's welfare has been the increased state expenditure on welfare and cultural services, the state's unceasing concern for the public health, and the assistance it gives to mothers of large families and to disabled war veterans.

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The Law on the Five-Year Plan for the Further Rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. for 1946-50 set the task of liquidating the effects of the war upon housing and of considerably improving the housing conditions of the working people.

Considerable successes have been achieved in this sphere. As has been stated already, during the first four years of the postwar five-year plan period, new dwellings were built in towns and workers' settlements and old ones restored amounting to a total floor space of over 72,000,000 sq. metres.

The Hitlerites destroyed over 70,000 villages and deprived millions of kolkhozniks of their homes. It was not only necessary to remove these people from the temporary dugouts in which they were living, but to build better houses for them than they had lived in before.

The rehabilitation of the wrecked villages began when the war was still in progress, and it continued on a much larger scale when the war ended. The state rendered the kolkhozniks in the war devastated regions immense assistance, and many millions have been transferred from dugouts to well-built houses.

Village house building developed in all districts of the country. In 1946-49 new houses were

built and old ones restored to the number of over 2,300,000.

As is the case in the whole of our national economy, the restoration of housing is accompanied by reconstruction and further development. New, well-built, socialist towns are arising on the sites of the towns and industrial settlements that the Hitlerites destroyed.

During the Battle of Stalingrad, the Barrikady workers' settlement was utterly destroyed. Not a single building was left in it. Now a new township has been built, consisting of over a hundred two- and three-storey houses with running hot water, electric light, central heating and radio service. It is a small garden city.

The Soviet State's concern for the welfare of the people is reflected in the extensive city improvement work now proceeding. During the first three postwar years, new water mains and sewers were laid and old ones restored in 151 towns and industrial settlements, tramways were laid in 15 towns and trolleybuses in 5 towns, and extensive work was done in planting trees and gardens in towns. The Stalin Saratov-Moscow gas pipe line was laid, and the laying of the Kokhtla-Yarva-Leningrad and the Dashava-Kiev gas pipe lines were completed. Many hundreds of thousands of apartments were supplied with gas.

Great successes have been achieved in recon-



structing and developing the municipal economy of the capital of the Soviet Union—Moscow.

Before the war, immense work had been done in carrying out the 1936-45 ten-year plan for the reconstruction of Moscow. The war inflicted serious damage on the municipal economy of Moscow and retarded its reconstruction. Since the termination of the war, the working people of Moscow have not only restored the main branches of the municipal economy to the prewar level, but have carried out a number of the schemes of the general plan for the reconstruction of the city. The assignments of the ten-year plan for gas supply, and the building of the Metro and bridges have been overfulfilled. Within the next three or four years the main assignments of the ten-year plan for the general reconstruction of Moscow's municipal economy will be completed. The Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.), deemed it necessary to draw up a new plan for the reconstruction of Moscow to cover a longer period—20 to 25 years. This marked the beginning of work on a gigantic scale and of immense importance for the further reconstruction of the capital of our great Socialist State.

Reconstruction and improvement is going on also in the rural districts. City type houses are being built in the villages, electricity is being sup-

plied on an extensive scale. Villages are being planned and provision made for running water, electricity, radio and other services. This reconstruction of the rural districts is one of the indications of the removal of the distinction between town and country.

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At one time the enemies of Socialism asserted that it was impossible to build Socialism in our country because of its cultural backwardness. Lenin shattered this counter-revolutionary Menshevik assertion when he said: "If a definite level of culture is required for the creation of Socialism (although nobody can tell what that definite "level of culture" is), why cannot we begin by creating the prerequisites for that definite level of culture in a revolutionary way and *then*, with the aid of the workers' and peasants' government and the Soviet system, proceed to overtake the other nations?"\* The correctness of this postulate, the product of Lenin's genius, has been brilliantly confirmed by the achievements in socialist construction in the U.S.S.R. The October Revolution brought all the achievements of culture

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\* V. I. Lenin, *Selected Works*, Two-Vol. ed., Vol. II, Moscow 1947, p. 838.



within the reach of the people, it created the conditions for raising the cultural level of millions of working people, the conditions for a genuine cultural revolution.

Lenin and Stalin linked the problem of the cultural revolution directly with the socialist reconstruction of society. Socialism gives access to knowledge to the broadest masses of the people. The technical reconstruction of the national economy, the creation of advanced industry and the collectivization of agriculture go hand in hand with a rise in the cultural and technical level of the working class, with a rise in the cultural level of the Soviet peasantry, with the solution of the skilled workers problem and the creation of a new, Soviet intelligentsia. An exhaustive description of cultural development in the U.S.S.R. was given by Comrade Stalin in his report to the Eighteenth Congress of the C.P.S.U.(B.). He said:

“From the standpoint of the cultural development of the people, the period under review has been marked by a veritable cultural revolution. The introduction of universal compulsory elementary education in the languages of the various nations of the U.S.S.R., an increasing number of schools and scholars of all grades, an increasing number of college-trained experts, and the creation and growth of a new intelligentsia,

a Soviet intelligentsia—such is the general picture of the cultural advancement of our people.”\*

Before the war, the number of pupils attending elementary and secondary schools was four times as much as before the revolution. Universal compulsory primary education had become a fact, and now universal seven year education is becoming a fact. For number of pupils attending school, the U.S.S.R. holds first place in the world. Exceptionally indicative of the progress of education in our country is the mass extension of secondary education. Before the war the number of pupils attending secondary schools was sixteen times as high as before the revolution. In the period of 1933-39 alone, this number trebled, and in the decade before the war the number of pupils in the rural districts attending secondary schools increased more than thirteenfold.

The U.S.S.R. also holds first place in the world as regards number of students attending colleges and universities and has far outstripped all bourgeois countries in this respect. Before the war, there were more students in the U.S.S.R. than in Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Japan put together. Twenty-eight persons out of every hundred were engaged in some branch of study. Not a single capitalist country can boast of such

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\* J. V. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 618.



an index of cultural development. It is possible only in a socialist country.

A most important feature of the cultural revolution in the U.S.S.R. is the flourishing culture of the non-Russian republics.

Characteristic of the cultural revolution is the all-sided cultural development of the Soviet people, the diversity and breadth of their cultural needs.

The U.S.S.R. holds first place in the world as regards numbers of books published and size of their editions; in this respect it has far outstripped countries like the U.S.A. and Great Britain. Thus, in 1938, about 40,000 books were published in the U.S.S.R., whereas in the U.S.A. barely 11,000 were published, and in Great Britain 17,000. The editions of the books published in the U.S.S.R. that year amounted to a total of 700,000,000 copies, whereas in the U.S.A. they amounted to only 335,000,000.

Characteristic of the scale of cultural development in the U.S.S.R. is the tremendous increase in the number of scientific institutions. During the decade before the war, the number of such institutions and their affiliates almost doubled: from 438 in 1929 to 757 in 1939.

Cultural development affected the rural as well as the urban districts. Every kolkhoz village has its cultural institutions, and a new and numerous

kolkhoz intelligentsia has grown up. Tens of millions of kolkhozniks attend agronomic and technical schools and classes. This means that Socialism is abolishing the "idiocy of rural life" that is characteristic of capitalism; it is abolishing the cultural backwardness of the countryside.

During the time they were lording in the regions they occupied, the German fascist bandits inflicted enormous damage upon the cultural institutions there. They wrecked 82,000 schools, 334 colleges and universities, 605 scientific research institutes; they destroyed and plundered 43,000 libraries with over 100,000,000 books, 427 museums and 44,000 recreation clubs and theatres. The schools they wrecked had been attended by about half the total number of schoolchildren in the country. The fascists barbarously wrecked the cultural institutions and monuments in our country. Planning to enslave the Soviet people, they wanted to wipe from the face of the earth not only everything that was characteristic of the high level of Soviet culture, but also the monuments of the glorious history of the Russian people. The Soviet State began on a wide scale to restore the schools, institutes, recreation clubs, theatres, museums and scientific institutions even before the war had ended.

The postwar development of socialist economy is accompanied by a further powerful spurt of



cultural development, and Comrade Stalin's reference to the interdependence between the improvement in the material conditions of the Soviet people and their cultural development when he said: "As regards the cultural standard of the people, its rise was commensurate with the rise in the standard of living,"\* fully applies to the postwar period. In the first three years of the postwar five-year plan period, the number of pupils attending elementary and secondary schools, and secondary vocational schools, increased by nearly 5,500,000. Five-and-a-half million—equal to the population of a whole country! In 1948 the number exceeded 34,000,000. According to figures published by the Central Statistical Board of the U.S.S.R., the number of pupils attending secondary vocational and other special schools in 1948 was 1,094,000 which is an increase of 33% over that of 1940. The number graduating from these schools in 1948 was 252,000, i.e., 44,000 more than in 1940. The number of students attending colleges and universities was 734,000, which is 26% more than in 1940. In addition, 298,000 students take higher educational correspondence courses. In 1948, the number of young specialists who graduated from colleges and universities was 122,000, which exceeds the

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\* J. V. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 618.

prewar figure by 20,000. Despite the damage caused by the war, the Soviet Union firmly retains first place in the world as regards number of students attending colleges and universities.

During the war, and particularly after the war, many new scientific institutions were opened. Already in 1946, the number of research institutes, and of scientists working in them, considerably exceeded the prewar figure. In 1947, the amount assigned for scientific research exceeded the 1946 figure by 1,500 million rubles and was more than three times as much as the sum assigned in 1940.

In tsarist Russia, in the decade 1904-13, only 500 persons stood for the Doctor of Science degree. In the U.S.S.R., in the last decade alone, over 28,000 scientific workers secured the Master of Science degree and over 6,500 the Doctor of Science degree.

There is not a single sphere of cultural development where considerable successes have not been achieved in the postwar period. Most of the theatres and recreation clubs that were wrecked have been restored. Radio broadcasting is now conducted on a scale never achieved before. In 1947 alone, the number of radio installations increased by over 1,200,000. The number of radio sets manufactured in 1948 was more than three times as high as in 1940; and in the same year



over 900,000 local relay broadcasting centres were set up.

A movement has arisen to provide radio service in every kolkhoz home. This movement was started by the Bolsheviks in the Moscow Region who have pledged themselves to provide radio service for every kolkhoz in the region by the end of the postwar five-year plan period. Numerous examples can be quoted to illustrate the flourishing culture of the kolkhoz countryside.

Before the October Revolution there were only three parish schools in what is now the Dymer District in the Kiev Region. Only 5% of the population of the district could read and write. There was not a single hospital there. At the present time, there are two secondary schools, ten seven-year schools and thirty primary schools in the Dymer District. There are also fifteen kolkhoz recreation clubs, ten public libraries, three cinema theatres and three itinerary cinema installations, and a big, new district hospital, equipped with X-ray and electrical treatment apparatus.

At the Pervoye Maya Kolkhoz in the Pere-myshl District, Kaluga Region, there is a recreation club, a public library, a radio relay centre, an electric power station and a sound-cinema theatre. Of the 525 able-bodied members of the kolkhoz, 105 have had a secondary education and 203 a seven year education.

The developing culture of Soviet Land stands out with exceptional brilliance against the background of degradation and barbarism into which the capitalist countries are sinking. The degradation of culture in these countries is primarily due to capital's attack on the standard of living of the working people. This explains why, in capitalist countries today, the number of pupils attending school is diminishing, why cultural institutions are being closed and the conditions of educational workers are deteriorating. Strongly indicative of this is the situation in the United States. In the richest capitalist country in the world, 6,000,000 children of school age—20% of the total—do not go to school. A real improvement in public education would entail an expenditure of 8,000 million dollars, but only a third of this sum is assigned, because the American capitalists are not interested in improving public education. For the very same reason schoolteachers in the United States are dragging out a miserable existence. In the postwar period, teachers' salaries have dropped 20% below the 1940 level; and even before the war the salaries of educational workers were much lower than those paid to policemen. In 1934, average policemen's salaries were almost three times as high as schoolteachers' salaries and nearly 20% higher than the salaries of university lecturers. In 1947-48, elementary schoolteachers



salaries averaged 37 dollars per week, but 200,000 teachers received even less than 25 dollars per week, i.e., much less than the pay of an unskilled labourer.

In capitalist countries, the most reactionary "theories" are disseminated in science, literature and art. The reactionary character of present-day capitalism manifests itself with exceptional force in the field of ideology and culture. The most reactionary theories and ideas are being revived and cultivated in all branches of knowledge. Obscurantism, clericalism, mysticism and medieval theories are being implanted with the aid of the apparatus of state power and of the bourgeois press. Progressive workers in science and culture are severely persecuted. The medieval, anti-scientific race theory, according to which some races and nations are alleged to be superior and others inferior, has become the peculiar ideological program of present-day imperialism. The object of this misanthropic "theory" is to justify imperialist plunder, the robbery and annihilation of other nations. German imperialism, which preached this theory, was routed by the Soviet Army. In the Great Patriotic War the Soviet Union won not only a military and economic victory, but also an ideological victory, thus clearly demonstrating the superiority of Soviet ideology, which is based on friendship among nations and on Soviet pa-

triotism. Nevertheless, the new claimants to world domination are reviving this race theory.

Lenin at one time described the Ministry of Education in tsarist Russia as the "Ministry of Miseducation." This description can rightly be applied to the "educational" system in all capitalist countries. It is no accident that clerical influence in the schools there is increasing and that democratically-minded teachers are being expelled. The function of "public miseducation" is also performed by the cinema, the radio and the press which, to please the ruling capitalist upper stratum, are corrupting the people, propagating reactionary, misanthropic ideas and spreading unbridled anti-Soviet calumny. Capitalism does not promote the development of science. On the contrary, the rule of the monopolies retards the development of productive forces and causes technical retrogression. The capitalists destroy, pigeon-hole, conceal great technical discoveries from the people if these discoveries and inventions threaten their high monopolist profits, or are simply not to the advantage of the monopolies. The capitalists extensively employ the achievements of science and technology for the purpose of producing means and instruments of destruction, because modern capitalism means—war; and for the capitalists, war is primarily "good business." They use atomic energy for the purpose of producing



means of destruction and not for the benefit of the people.

Soviet culture is the most progressive culture in the world. The great, invincible teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin provide a correct methodology for all branches of science. The Marxist dialectical method enables Soviet scientists to promote science in every branch of knowledge and opens for them enormous prospects of further development.

Of great, fundamental importance was the discussion on problems of biology that took place under the guiding influence of the Bolshevik Party. This discussion exposed the reactionary idealistic survivals in the science of biology and resulted in a victory for progressive and effective Michurin science, which is based on the principles of dialectical materialism, is closely connected with practical life, and is actively helping the people to build Communism.

Soviet literature and art are the most progressive in the world. They serve the people, educate them in the spirit of Soviet patriotism, in the spirit of Communism. There is no room, nor can there be any room in Soviet literature and art for the decadence, mysticism and ideological vacuity that is characteristic of bourgeois art.

The utterances of Lenin and Stalin on partisanship in literature and art, and the decisions

of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) on ideological questions, which exposed and condemned the manifestations of bourgeois influence in science, literature, music and the cinema, and indicated the way to overcome them, promoted the further development of literature and art in the U.S.S.R. During the past few years, great works of literature, the cinema and other forms of art have been produced in the U.S.S.R. Works like A. Fadeyev's *The Young Guard*, I. Ehrenburg's *The Storm*, P. Pavlenko's *Happiness*, V. Azhayev's *Far From Moscow*, K. Fedin's *No Ordinary Summer*, M. Bubennov's *White Birch*, S. Babayevsky's *Chevalier of the Order of the Gold Star*, and many others, have been translated into many of the languages of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. The great films: *The Vow*, *A Tale of the Land of Siberia*, *Village Schoolteacher*, *The Young Guard*, *A Story About a Real Man*, *Michurin*, *Ivan Pavlov*, *Court of Honour*, *Meeting on the Elba* and many others, cultivate among the Soviet people the fine qualities of Soviet patriotism, love of country and devotion to the Party of Lenin and Stalin. Since the publication of the decision passed by the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B.) on the repertoires of the dramatic theatres and on the measures to be taken to improve them, the Soviet theatres have presented a number of plays of high ideological and artistic



merit, such as: B. Chirskov's *Victors*, N. Virta's *Our Daily Bread*, A. Surov's *Green Street*, B. Romashov's *A Great Power*, A. Safronov's *Moscow Character* and *In A Certain City* and many others.

Of enormous importance for the further development of Soviet culture was the exposure and rout of the bourgeois cosmopolitans who were operating in various sectors of the ideological front. The reactionary ideology of cosmopolitanism is a reflection of the aggressive strivings of American imperialism, which is laying claim to world domination and is arrogantly trampling upon the independence and sovereignty of other nations.

These cosmopolitans, owing allegiance to no country, hostile to the Soviet people, lacking all sense of national pride and grovelling before decadent bourgeois "culture," calumniated Soviet literature and art, and tried to discredit Soviet writers and playwrights and those of their works in which life in our country and the splendid qualities of the builders of Communism are depicted.

The exposure and ideological rout of the cosmopolitans in all fields of literature, art and science, resolute struggle against cosmopolitanism, against the "no politics in art" theory, against anti-scientific bourgeois objectivism and subservience to decadent bourgeois culture—all this is an

essential condition for the further vigorous development of Soviet science and art.

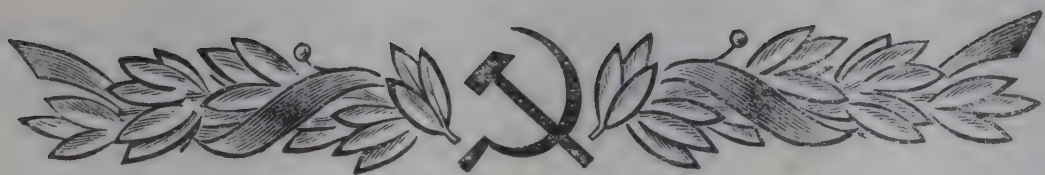
“We are entitled to be proud of the accomplishments of the Soviet arts and, especially of late, of the accomplishments of Soviet literature, which is no mean achievement of the guidance and direction of the Party. Our literature, cinema and other arts are being increasingly enriched with productions whose characters and images reveal the inward meaning of events and the endeavours of the people of the Soviet epoch. True art appeals to and leaves deep traces in the minds of the people. Hence the great importance of the present efflorescence of the Soviet arts for the further development of what has been accomplished in the communist education of the Soviet people.”\*

Characteristic of the postwar period is the further cultural development of the Soviet people, the flourishing condition of the culture of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. which is national in form and socialist in content.

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\* V. M. Molotov, *XXXI Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution*, Moscow 1948, p. 16.





## CONCLUSION

IN ALL spheres of the economic, political and cultural life of the nations comprising the U.S.S.R., the Soviet people are engaged in extensive creative constructive activity.

The socialist system of society is gaining strength and developing. In all branches of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. there is a continuous increase in production.

Steady progress has been the inherent law of Soviet economy throughout its history.

This law is one of the chief indications that the Soviet economic system is progressive compared with the capitalist system. Even during the Great Patriotic War, the fiercest and most arduous war our country has ever had to wage, Soviet economy continued to develop in conformity with the laws of expanded socialist reproduction.

In the postwar period, this characteristic feature of the socialist system of economy has mani-

fested itself with renewed force. Notwithstanding the enormous difficulties that had been created by the war and aggravated by the drought in 1946, the national economy of the U.S.S.R. started the postwar period with a sharp increase, in 1946, in industrial production and freight traffic, and in the regions unaffected by the drought, particularly in Western Siberia and Kazakhstan, also with an increase in agricultural production.

In 1947, the tempo of development of the national economy increased considerably compared with that of 1946. In the economic sphere that year is noteworthy for three events: the achievement at the end of the year of the prewar level of industrial production; a radical turn in the development of agriculture, which, in 1947, provided the state with no less grain than in the best prewar years; and lastly, the reform of the currency, abolition of rationing, and the resumption of open trade at uniform retail prices. The reform of the currency and abolition of rationing strengthened the entire economic system and decisively improved the material welfare of the Soviet people.

The ground was thus prepared for that swift acceleration of progress that distinguished 1948 in the sphere of industrial production, which overstepped the prewar level, and in the sphere of agriculture, where the gross grain crop was



only a little under that of the prewar year, 1940. The most important thing that characterizes 1948 is the rise in the standard of production, the profound qualitative changes that took place in all branches of the national economy. The new, powerful upswing of socialist emulation and of the Stakhanov movement, the development of the Communist consciousness of the Soviet people, their ideological and political growth, brought forth splendid fruit. Productivity of labour increased, better use was made of industrial equipment, of railway rolling stock and of tractors and agricultural machines in sovkhozes, MTS and kolkhozes, cost of production was reduced and socialist accumulations increased.

The postwar successes of Soviet economy and the immense tasks that confronted the Soviet people in the fourth year of the postwar five-year plan period are vividly reflected in the Budget of the Soviet State for 1949. This Budget ensures the further consolidation of the Soviet State's economic might, the further progress of science and culture, and a steady improvement in the welfare of the working people. The revenue side of the Budget amounts to 445,208 million rubles, 9% above that of the 1948 Budget. The expenditure side amounts to 415,355 million rubles, which is 12.6% above that of the 1948 Budget. About nine-tenths of the revenues are to come from the so-

cialist enterprises. The enormous increase in the profits of industry—estimated at 77.2% above those of 1948—is remarkable evidence of the postwar successes of the national economy of the U.S.S.R.

A change has also taken place in the character of the expenditure to supply the needs of the national economy. In past years, a considerable part of this expenditure comprised state subsidies to industry and transport; but this year, the payment of subsidies is practically to cease. Expenditure on capital construction is to be increased by nearly 50%. Nearly a third of these new investments are to come from the enterprises' own funds (in 1948, these funds constituted a little over one-sixth of the total investments in capital construction). Assignments for agriculture are to increase by more than 50%. There is to be a considerable increase in the assignments for housing, education, public health and for the development of trade.

Whereas the budgets of capitalist countries are war budgets that intensify the impoverishment of the masses, the main object of the State Budget of the U.S.S.R. is to develop the productive forces of the country and improve the welfare of the people.

The Soviet people are exerting their efforts to fulfil the postwar five-year plan ahead of time.



This will permit the more rapid execution of the great plans for a further powerful upswing of socialist production and culture during the coming five-year plan periods that Comrade Stalin mentioned in his historic speech on February 9, 1946. The upswing that Comrade Stalin referred to will enable the U.S.S.R. to overtake and outstrip the chief capitalist countries economically and accelerate the transition to Communism. To achieve this, our industrial output will have to be increased about threefold compared with pre-war output: the annual output of pig iron will have to be raised to 50,000,000 tons, steel to 60,000,000 tons, coal to 500,000,000 tons, and oil to 60,000,000 tons. "Only when we succeed in doing that," said Comrade Stalin, "can we be sure that our Motherland will be ensured against all contingencies."

The figures that Comrade Stalin mentioned give the Soviet people a concrete idea of the scale of production that is needed to create an abundance of goods in the country and to pass from the first phase of Communism to its second phase. What had seemed a matter of the distant future has become a scientifically grounded aim of the present day expressed in figures. A great aim engenders great energy, says Comrade Stalin. The Stalin program for a new, powerful upswing of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. has rein-

forced the efforts of the Soviet people to fulfil and overfulfil the postwar five-year plan and has been the source of the unprecedented upswing of socialist emulation and of the Stakhanov movement.

A most important premise for the speediest achievement of the U.S.S.R.'s fundamental economic task is a further considerable increase in production capacity in all branches of the national economy, and primarily in industry. It is necessary considerably to increase output capacity for pig iron, steel smelting and rolling, coal and oil, electricity and chemical fertilizers, and for various types of machines and equipment.

Among the chief conditions for the speediest achievement of the fundamental economic task is technical progress and the development of science. The importance of these factors for accelerating the tempo of socialist reproduction increases day after day.

Comrade Stalin has set the task "... in the very near future not only to overtake but even to outstrip the achievements of science beyond the borders of our country." Soviet scientists are successfully fulfilling this task. Eloquent testimony to this is provided by the successes of the Michurin trend in present-day Soviet biology. The fruitfulness and creative force of the Michurin trend is confirmed by the entire practice of socialist agri-



culture—the achievements in improving old and creating new varieties of plants and animals, in increasing yields of crops and animal produce, and the changes in the geographical distribution of crops.

I. V. Michurin's splendid words: "We cannot wait for favours from Nature; we must wrest them from her," profoundly characterizes advanced Soviet science. It well expresses the activeness and effectiveness, the boldness of design and perseverance in its execution that are characteristic of Soviet science.

Soviet society's development towards Communism is inseverably connected with the growth of education and culture among our people. "We want all our workers and peasants to be cultured and educated, and we shall achieve this in time," said Comrade Stalin. Raising the cultural and technical level of the workers in industry and agriculture to that of engineers and technicians is creating the bases for achieving an unprecedented level of productivity of labour.

Already at the dawn of the Stakhanov movement, Comrade Stalin saw the beginnings of that upswing of the cultural and technical level of the working class that can ensure high productivity of labour and create the abundance of consumers' goods necessary for the transition from Socialism to Communism. Since then, the Sta-

khanov movement has grown into a truly nationwide movement that reflects the rapid cultural and technical development of the workers in all branches of Soviet economy.

In the epoch of the completion of socialist society and of the gradual transition to Communism, the communist education of the working people has acquired first-class importance. The Communist Party and the Soviet State are waging a persistent and persevering struggle against all manifestations of reactionary bourgeois ideology, against bourgeois cosmopolitanism—the ideological weapon of American imperialism. This is a struggle to educate people who will be free from the traditions and habits of the old society, from all subservience to decadent bourgeois culture, from survivals of private-property mentality and bourgeois morality; it is a struggle to educate the people in the spirit of Soviet patriotism, of selfless love and devotion to our Socialist Motherland and to the Party of Lenin and Stalin.

Year after year, the powerful, postwar upswing of Soviet economy is creating new possibilities for accelerating progress towards Communism, is enabling us to set and carry out new and ever greater tasks. The peoples of the U.S.S.R. have already set to work on the grand Stalin plan to plant shelter belts and to carry out other measures with the object of changing the climate of



our country. Mankind has never before set itself a task of such gigantic dimensions. "Our confidence that this epoch-making plan will be fulfilled is indicative of the speed with which our strength, our achievements and our potentialities grow when we follow the path mapped out by the Communist Party, by Great Stalin."\*

The Soviet Union is on a steep upgrade. The Soviet people are working with enthusiasm to carry out the Stalin plans. Wide prospects for the further efflorescence of our economic and cultural life open before us. The victories of Socialism in our country inspire all progressive mankind in its struggle against bellicose international reaction and for lasting peace among nations.

The Soviet people are marching confidently towards their goal—the completion of communist society. Under the guidance of the Bolshevik Party and the leadership of great Stalin they will reach that historic goal.

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\* V. M. Molotov, *XXXI Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution*, Moscow 1948, pp. 10-11.





## BOOKS ABOUT THE U.S.S.R.

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NOW ON SALE

M. I. KALININ. On Communist Education

V. KARPINSKY. The Social and State Structure of the U.S.S.R.

N. MIKHAILOV. Across the Map of the U.S.S.R.

O. NOGINA. Mother and Child Care in the U.S.S.R.

N. POPOVA. Women in the Land of Socialism

P. ANGELINA. My Answer to an American Questionnaire

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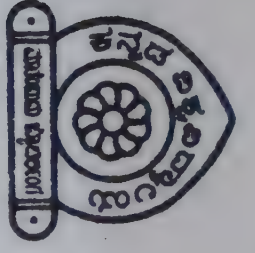
I. V. MICHURIN. Selected Works

THE SITUATION IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE. Proceedings of the Lenin Academy of Agricultural Sciences of the U.S.S.R.

(Session: July 31-August 7, 1948. Verbatim Report)

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ಗ್ರಂಥಾಲಯ  
ಕನ್ನಡ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ - ಹಂಪಿ  
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ಪುಸ್ತಕವನ್ನು ಕೊನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನಮೂದಿಸಲಾಗಿರುವ ದಿನದಂದು ಅಥವಾ ಅದಕ್ಕೆ ಮುನ್ನ  
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